APPENDIX E

## VERBATIM SWORN STATEMENT

IN RE: DRAKE CHEMICAL SITE

EPA

STATEMENT OF: KURT DAVIS

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PLACE:

TAKEN BY:

SHERATON INN

ROOM 502

WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

MARCH 2, 1998, 6:10 P.M.

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## APPEARANCES:

BY: MICK HARRISON, ESQUIRE

P.O. Box 467

Berea, Kentucky 40403 FOR - KURT DAVIS

FOR - KURT DAVI

BY: ROBERT J. MARTIN, OMBUDSMAN
US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICES

401 M Street, S.W.

ALSO PRESENT: BILL SMEDLEY

Washington, D.C. 20460 FOR - EPA

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THE WITNESS: I'll tell you the truth as best
I know it.

EXAMINATION

## BY MR. MARTIN:

Q We are ready to commence. For purposes of the record, I am Robert J. Martin, National Ombudsman of the United States Environmental Protection Agency. With me here in this meeting are Mick Harrison, counsel for Kurt Davis, the witness, and A.I.R. the Incinerator Remediation. Bill Smedley is also present, the president?

MR. SMEDLEY: No. I am Chairman of the Air Legal Committee.

MR. MARTIN: Chairman of A-I-R Legal
Committee. And, of course, Mr. Kurt Davis, the witness.
What I would like to do is begin by having you describe
briefly, as you did previously, what your position was
at the Drake Chemical Site.

A I was hired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in September, end of September 1996, in the position of shift supervisor on the quality assurance team.

Q Okay. And your employment was continuous

from that time until what time?

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A With the Corps of Engineers, from that time through October 22 or 23 of 1997. A 13-month term is what I was hired on for. The duration -- the time that I spent at Drake was through February of '97.

- Q So you were present at the Drake Chemical Site during the trial and risk burn portions of the project?
  - A That's correct.
- Q And you were present during that time as a shift supervisor?
  - A That's correct.
  - Q For the Army Corps of Engineers?
  - A Yes.
- Q Is there anything generally that you want to speak to about your time with the Corps at the site first, and secondly, your time with the Corps at the site during the risk and trial burns?
- A Okay. The trial burn is we're talking the entire duration of from when they started operations of the incinerator up through the completion of the last risk burn.

And I guess I might as well start by explaining my interview with David Modricker and Mike Ogden, who were my superiors on the project. I sat down

at the interview process, prior to being hired, and explained the concerns that if I would work on this project, it was important to me, given the responsibility of the quality assurance team shift supervisor, that this all gets done right.

And they reassured me that that's why I would be there if I were hired. And it looked the they were in a position to say yes, you've got the job and basically, I walked away from there and they said yes, you got the job.

I worked the first week, I think, day shift, and was handed a set of plans that covered most -- all the aspects of the incineration process of the trial burn remediation process.

Prior to coming onto the site, I had 40-hour training for HAZWOPER training. And I came onto the site, I worked day shifts and spent most of my time reviewing -- going over the plans, trying to comprehend the plans, becoming familiar with the staff, the contractor staff and the incinerator control room and operations.

I had been introduced to the site by who at that time was my immediate supervisor, John Ricard, who walked me through the hot zone, showed me the water treatment plant and other areas of the site that needed to be included pretty much in overall inspection routine.

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I discussed with David Modricker where I would get the most comprehensive and fastest insight into what was happening there. And we came to the consensus to -- we agreed that to sit in the control room was where you would find out the in's and out's of what's happening with the process.

So that's where I spent most of my time, in the control room with the OHM's -- the contractor's OHM, two control room operators, incinerator operators.

And at this time, we're trying to -- they're just getting ready to drop contaminated soil, feed contaminated soil through the incinerator, through the process. And they were shooting for 60 ton per hour. That was the number they were trying to get to, at a feed rate of 60 ton per hour.

And early on, it was discovered that to feed 60 ton an hour through the incinerator, they couldn't get the ash up to a temperature where they would be able to put it back in the ground as clean fill; they couldn't remediate the ash, the contaminated soil, put it back in the ground.

Take your time. Take a deep breath.

MR. HARRISON: We got time. Don't rush it.

MR. MARTIN: Relax as much as possible.

THE WITNESS: There was a lot of activity going on at the site. Feed prep was busy trying to -- was hustling and running into difficulties at prepping the feed to get it through the screeners; it was wet and clumpy, and they had to assess which was the best methods of screening it and getting it fed at that rate.

The incinerator had difficulty, as I said, getting temperatures up to where it could effectively remediate the feed. And it pretty much took every effort that the feed prep could put together to keep the feed rate going at that high rate.

And it wasn't very far into the project where I said -- and it was pretty much the operators -- I'm talking to controller and operators, I said, why are we running 60 ton an hour through this thing when, first of all, we have a really hard time keeping it coming and it's not getting -- we're not getting success with the operation to put it back into the clean zone, you couldn't back fill with it?

So we're kind of creating a loop here. We're taking from the zone, running it through and putting it back in the zone.

BY MR. MARTIN:

Q What percentage, if I may ask, failed the

put-down requirement of the soils that were burned?

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A All of it. Initially, all of it. If I'm not mistaken, all of it and through the first -- I don't know the time frame -- I might have to review the records, it's been a year since I've been there; I would have to review and find out when they finally did successfully get ash that they could use for backfill.

And I continued to question why we -- why wouldn't we stop this and produce -- and get the temperatures to whatever we need to and the ash to get them so we can put it back in the ground.

They had an excavation area on the site, which was a clean area that they wanted to fill, and they just couldn't -- they weren't getting there with no good explanation to me why they would do that.

Q And if I may ask at this juncture, what was the temperature required in the kiln of the incinerator to meet the put-down rate successfully?

A I don't think that was determined. It was determined that the temperature of the ash existing in the kiln had to be 900 degrees to get it to successful put-down criteria.

These numbers were given to me later. But I think the people that were doing the project knew they had to get to those ash temperatures. I got the

information later.

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- Q So the kiln temperature was not determined; however, the ash temperature was determined?
  - A Right.
  - Q The ash temperature had to be 900 degrees?
- 6 A Right.
  - Q In your recollection, what was the ash temperature?

A It varied. Initially, the temperatures and the ash that came out varied considerably. There were actually cold spots in the -- there was feed that pretty much hadn't been heated coming out of the kiln, perhaps heated, but not heated significantly or substantially to raise the temperature anywhere near 900 degrees.

And the decision was made that we need to modify the kiln to get this much feed into it. It would lay thick on the bottom of the rotary kiln, and the assumption was it was kind of sliding and laying a foot or so thick in the kiln and going through so it wouldn't be agitated enough to get the volatiles out of the contaminated soil.

And a considerable amount of soil had been run through; they shut the operation down and pulled some refractory out of the kiln and installed some lifters, which are kind of concrete; they were called

lifters.

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And the purpose of those were to get the soil lifted up and turn it up and agitate it more so it would get a more even distribution of heat throughout the feed, the soil in the kiln.

Q Was that an effective practice?

A When it was accomplished, when they -- when we ran after that, there was an increase in carryover, I think the term that's appropriate, of fly ash, of particulate into the air pollution train, and there were associated difficulties that carried on all down the line in the process that had to be adjusted and dealt with to meet with that additional carryover.

They had to increase the temperature within the kiln. There were some modifications on the burners.

This is recollection as best as I can make it.

And it took quite a while to get these things shook out to the point where they could -- and they lowered the feed rate considerably to where they could get a product that they could put back into the ground. That was getting real close to the trial burn, I guess, when they actually managed to do that.

- Q So these problems occurred during the risk burn or risk burns?
  - A Yeah, the problems occurred prior to the

actual risk burn and trial burn. And throughout the risk burn and trial burn, I think there were some difficulties in maintaining a steady state in that process, steady state where things would line out and it would hold the temperature throughout and hold a quench flow throughout.

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And then there were some upset conditions that we encountered along the line. Upset conditions shut off the feed, automatic waste feed. And for the most part, my assessment is these interlocks worked as they were designed to work. I think I need to say that.

But there were frequent and persistent difficulties with that, getting it to where they wanted it to be. And they kept striving for the maximum feed rate to satisfy the contract or what they had bid on the contract, what they said they could do initially.

My recollection is there was risk burn early on, but I'm not sure of the dates, where their subcontractor came up and did stack testing and --

- O Who was that subcontractor?
- A MRI, Midwest Research Institute, I believe.

MR. HARRISON: Kurt, if I could interrupt.

Do you want to refer to the tables with the dates for the risk burns and trial burns? I don't know if these are correct. These are what EPA says are the dates.

THE WITNESS: This is in January. I think 1 2 there was one earlier on. MR. HARRISON: They all should be there. 3 4 THE WITNESS: January, February. MR. MARTIN: If I may interject for the 5 ' 6 record, these tables are excerpted from --7 MR. HARRISON: Trial burn reports from EPA 8 and risk burn reports. 9 MR. MARTIN: Trial burn and risk burn reports from EPA. 10 11 MR. HARRISON: Correct. THE WITNESS: And these are the two trial 12 burns and risk burns that were done on January 25. 13 MR. HARRISON: '97. 14 15 THE WITNESS: Through February 7 of '97. I 16 think there was an actual risk burn --17 MR. HARRISON: Did they call it a mini burn? 18 THE WITNESS: A mini risk burn possibly done early on. 19 MR. HARRISON: Like November? .20 2.1 THE WITNESS: I think in November. I'm not sure of the dates. 22 :23 BY MR. MARTIN: These dates, however, are consistent with 24 your recollection of when the risk and trial burns 25

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occurred?

- 2 A Right.
  - Q At the Drake site?

A Yes. That's a well-documented event there. This is what sets the parameters that they would work under. This data accumulated from these four runs or four tests is what they assess and set parameters with what they can run under with permit.

Q Are your recollections about the temperature of the ash and the failure of the ash to meet the put-down requirements recorded at all in your personal logs or any other site document?

A Yes. OHM has got ampretty concise -- at one point later on in the operation routinely sampled for ash temperatures to get a handle on where they were at with feed rate and temperatures in the kiln to give them some room to back off or increase the temperatures in the kiln to satisfy what they knew they needed to meet.

My question was then, and is still, why not set -- if you know what ash temperatures you need to get to, why not make that a basis for your operating conditions? That's a question that wasn't answered.

- Q Did you ask that question on the site during your time there?
  - A Right. And I didn't have that information

until later on. I think it was Jerry Clayson.

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Q Can you spell the last name, please?

A C-L-A-Y-S-O-N, a consultant with El Dorado, possibly hired by the either the Corps of Engineers -- I think by the Corps of Engineers to -- and I think Jerry was there for probably the mini risk burn, which might have been when I first met him and saw him subsequently there for the trial and risk burns and assuming he did his own report on the operation.

I think Jerry -- I think it was Jerry that brought -- was it Jerry Clayson that brought some ash samples in jars where they had done testing on the soils in a smaller oven, a smaller oven or kiln and made the determination that they had to get real close to 900 degrees consistently to be able to get the feed waste -- feed remediated to where they could put it back into the ground.

- Q Did you ever see his written report?
- A I don't believe I had ever seen his written report, no.
- Q But you do recall discussing this problem with him?

A Right. I recall him telling -- I recall talking to Jerry about questioning the operation of running this much feed through here and having to put it

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back in the hot zone.

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And he said -- I think that's when he told me that they know they need to get close to 900 degrees on this.

Q And in your best recollection, the 900-degree requirement was not achieved?

A Consistently throughout until they got to probably the trial burn. Well, very possibly before that they had 900 degree temperatures.

MR. HARRISON: Bob, could we clarify just the last answer for the record? I think the witness is clear on what the answer was, but the record may not. Were you saying that the 900 degree temperature in the ash was consistently achieved or consistently not achieved and for what period?

THE WITNESS: It was consistently not achieved for an extended period up towards the trial burn, I would think. Dates may be -- it might be better to -- I don't know. I don't know what the dates are. I can honestly say I don't know what the dates are.

But I'm thinking it was closer to December when -- I'm assuming they were met when we were achieving success with the feed and putting it back in the ground; the sampling was coming out; they met the criteria for beta-naphthylamine, BNA, and Fenac, which

were the two constituents that were driving the temperatures, driving the entire requirement.

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They were the most -- I guess the most difficult to get out that they were sampling for. I think that's accurate. That's my understanding of it anyway.

MR. HARRISON: It's the ones they admit to?

THE WITNESS: Yeah. And I don't know where
to go. Where do we go from here?

BY MR. MARTIN:

Q I would like at this time to address the issue of fugitive emissions from the Drake site. Were you aware of any fugitive emissions from the site during your tenure?

A I would like to clarify your statement of fugitive emissions from the Drake site. I'm aware of what I assess to be fugitive emissions from the process to the degree that they very likely -- well, there were fugitive emissions in the form of steam and vapors and wet dust to the extent that they would cloud off the TDF pad.

And whichever way the wind was blowing, they would either deposit their -- a lot of the dust that was laid in the steam on the sprung building, which is the feed prep building adjacent to the kiln and wet ash

drag, which was the most visible, most evident deposition of ash of dust.

I worked the third shift, the night shift for the most part when I was out there. And the boys on the pad would hose -- they would be out there hosing down from underneath the quench.

And on a couple of occasions, by early morning, they would come around and hose off the sprung building. And this is when I was raising the issue of fugitive emissions from the process.

I didn't make the determination that they were fugitive from the site, but I didn't -- but I was concerned, as is in that previous affidavit, we've got a monitoring system on the perimeter of the site that needs to do its job without question and to satisfy the contract at least or you -- or I didn't feel comfortable saying that there weren't fugitive emissions potentially leaving the site. I mean, that's what that system was to do.

Q I would like to discuss the air monitoring system at a later juncture in this session. I would like to return the issue of fugitive emissions. To clarify, if I understand your statement correctly, you did not personally see or you were not personally aware of fugitive emissions from stockpiles on the site;

however, you did personally see fugitive emissions which . 1 2 resulted from operation of the incineration unit? That's correct. Yeah, that is accurate. Α 3 MR. HARRISON: It may be accurate. I don't think it's what he said. I don't know if he mentioned 5 6 he didn't see fugitive from the soil. Are you talking .7 about the soil stockpile? MR. MARTIN: That's right. 8 MR. HARRISON: I don't know if we talked about that. Did you say that tonight? 10 THE WITNESS: No, I don't know that I ever 11 12 said that. MR. HARRISON: Okay. So since you haven't 13 said it, let's be clear. Have you seen steam or dust 14 15 coming off of the soil stockpile at the site? THE WITNESS: The soil stockpile pretty much 16 17 I haven't -- I can say I haven't seen fugitive emissions coming from the soil stockpile, not the -- I mean 18 there's vapors -- actually vapors and steam coming off 1,9 '20 the ash pile that had been put back in the soil stockpile. And those vapors came off the zone, and I 21 22 don't know where they went.

MR. HARRISON: That's an important distinction.

BY MR. MARTIN:

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Q So the ash which had failed the put-down requirement --

A Right.

Q -- and was then placed on top of the stockpiles on the site which were to be fed into the incinerator, that ash which had failed the put-down requirement was emitting vapors?

A Right.

Q Did you see any particular particulate matter in the vapors that had approached the boundary of the site; the fence line?

A No. No. I can't -- if you can see it, I don't know how you assess that. The particulate matter that I was most concerned about was billowing clouds of steam coming off of the wet ash drag and the ash handling -- bottom ash storage bins; those clouds of steam were rolling constantly.

And that was my concern, we got a fugitive emission happening within the process. And you can tell me that there's contamination in the feed coming in and there's still contamination in the ash that has to go back in the zone; what's happening in between here needs to be characterized before you can tell me that there's not a problem here.

MR. HARRISON: And, Kurt, to be clear, when

you say what's happening in between, what are you referring to?

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THE WITNESS: In between is the process of waste feed and taking it up to a temperature that's less than optimum to remove the contaminants and running it through the process, running it through the system.

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And part of the process confused me or concerned me. You would take the scrubber water, and it would be blown down on the wet ash -- on the bottom ash to -- I guess, two reasons.

One, to get rid of the scrubber water and two, to aid in cooling the bottom ash, I guess.

MR. HARRISON: Kurt, just to be clear, if scrubber water had not been used to cool the bottom ash, or even if it was, was there another source of water used to cool the bottom ash?

THE WITNESS: Yes, there's -- the scrubber water was blown down into a tank by the wet ash drag, and city water would be added to that scrubber water when needed.

MR. HARRISON: Municipal water?

THE WITNESS: To blow down to moist, to wet the bottom ash as it come out. And by not reaching optimum temperatures and still having contamination in the ash that had to be put back in the zone, I was

concerned that there -- there was concern for what 1 emissions were coming off the process. . 2 MR. HARRISON: Before you guys go on, a point 3 of clarification. 4 BY MR. MARTIN: 5 6 I wish to return to the general issue of 7 fugitive emissions in a moment. However, I would like to clarify at this juncture that you observed city water 8 from a municipal source being used to treat the ash; 9 please clarify? 10 11 My understanding of the process is that there's a tank, possibly a couple thousand gallon tank. 12 Was that a Klien tank? 13 0 I don't know what a Klien tank is. 14 Α 15 Okay. Go on. O

Situated back on the TDF pad next to the wet Α ash drag where the scrubber water was blown down. it's my understanding that the capability is there to add water to that tank, and I'm thinking it's clean water, unless there's a source of water within the process itself that would be added to that.

And if there is a source of water that needed someplace to go, I'm assuming that's where it would go.

Did you see the water?

Α No.

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MR. HARRISON: Well, let's be clear. Did you see the water where or when?

BY MR. MARTIN:

Q Did you see the water which was being used in the process before it was used?

A There was an onsite city water tank, yes. And the plumbing is there to get it back to where it needs to go, as far as I understand.

Q Thank you.

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MR. HARRISON: Excuse me, Kurt. I'm sorry.

The fugitive emissions issue, I just wanted to state for the record, my understanding of the use of the term

"fugitive emission," as Kurt is using it, not necessarily as EPA would choose to use it, and also I believe Kurt's definition is consistent with mine, kurt referred to an emission of vapor particular steam on site when he saw it, referred to it as fugitive when it would enter the atmosphere.

Whether or not it left site or whether or not it could be observed leaving site, if it went into the atmosphere and left the control of the operators, he would consider it fugitive.

I also would consider it fugitive. I also happen to think the law considers it fugitive at that point. For certain regulations and other matters,

whether it leaves the site or not is not important. But for others, it's fugitive even if it simply enters the atmosphere. I just wanted to clarify that for the record.

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THE WITNESS: And my assessment of it being fugitive, a fugitive emission was that it was an emission from the process which I felt -- I was under the understanding that it was to be enclosed, and for all the right reasons, my assessment to alleviate the potential fugitive emissions that were occurring.

BY MR. MARTIN:

Q Can we finish the municipal water issue at this juncture? After the municipal water was used, where was it recycled to?

A The municipal water, if it was used to add to the blow-down water that would be used on the -- to moisten the bottom ash, wet ash drag, if it were used, it would be added to the tank which was contaminated -- had contaminated blow-down water from the scrubbers.

My understanding of the process is that any process water could not be handled or treated in the water treatment plant. The issue then being if there's fugitive emissions that were washed back into the lagoon, the lagoon is site water, contaminated water, can process water which isn't to be treated as being

added to this site water which is to be treated. Which would have been -- in my opinion, it 2 would have been not the way it was to be done, okay? Q Okay. I understand that: Α Is that clear enough with the issue of the city water? When there's water that they bring in that 6 they need to use in the process, once it's added to the 7 process, it becomes process water, and it's not to be 8 processed water -- it's my understanding that process 9 10 water is not to be treated in the water treatment plant. 11 MR. HARRISON: But to finish your answer to Bob's question, I think he wanted to know what 12 13 ultimately happens to this water. After it's used, .14 where does it go? 15 BY MR. MARTIN: 16 Does the end point for the water result in 0 17 the lagoon or does it go --18 A If it were operating -- wait. 19 MR. HARRISON: If you put it on the ash, where does it go? 20 THE WITNESS: I would assume most of it is 21 going off in the air. 22 MR. HARRISON: As steam? 23 THE WITNESS: As steam. And it's carrying 24 25 dust particles with it.

MR. HARRISON: Did you ever see any leave the 1 ash conveyer, any liquid leave the ash conveyer? 2 3 THE WITNESS: Yeah, it's part of the process. MR. HARRISON: Explain that to Bob. 4 THE WITNESS: The amount of flow that's 5 6 regulated onto the bottom ash, it has to be maintained. 7 at a certain rate so it doesn't saturate the bottom ash and wash through and drip on the TDF pad. 8 I mean, that's happened -- that happened 9 happens. 10 consistently. MR. HARRISON: When you say that --11 THE WITNESS: The dripping, the amount of 12 water -- that's a sloppy operation. It's wet and 13 dripping. When you wet the bottom ash in your enclosed 14 15 conveyer and drop it onto the radial stacker, they actually built a dam of -- kind of a dike -- on the pad 16 under the conveyer, the radial stacker to collect this 1.7 18 overage of water I suppose is --MR. HARRISON: Coming off the ash? 19 THE WITNESS: Coming off the bottom ash. 20 MR. HARRISON: Where did that water go? 21 THE WITNESS: The water was eventually --22 well, it continually -- I'm assuming it went back in the 23 I dan't swear that it went back in the lagoon, 24

but I don't know what else they would have done with it.

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They contained it in that area as best they could. But when it was full, they didn't bag it up and take it away.

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MR. HARRISON: Is there any disposal method that you know of for spillage of water on site that's been used in the process, other than putting it into the lagoon in the water treatment plant?

THE WITNESS: No. Well, now wait. Let me clarify that because if everything is working right, if it gets placed on the ash and it is taken up in the ash, that's where I'm assuming it was to stay. It's diluted — the concentrations are diluted throughout the bottom ash which is remediated to the point where it could be sampled, analyzed, and put back in as fill.

MR. HARRISON: When it works right?
THE WITNESS: When it works right.

MR. HARRISON: When it doesn't work right, is there any other method for dealing with the water when it doesn't work right?

THE WITNESS: When it doesn't work right, it all goes back in the zone. It all goes back out -- the ash fails, it goes back in the zone. The slop that comes off on the pad, I'm sure finds its way -- I'm relatively sure it all finds its way back into the lagoon.

The fugitive emissions issue, if you want to 1 -- we'll expand on that, carries over to the guench 2 tower, the evaporative cooler. 3 BY MR. MARTIN: 4 I have one additional question before we 5 Q proceed further with that. 6 7 Α Okay. Was there any direct connection between the 8 9 city water treatment plant and site operations, such 10 that water that was used from the city could have gone 11 off site either treated or untreated to the plant, the city water plant? 12 Oh, no. No, the city water filtration plant 13 is in McElhattan. Are you confusing -- the city water 14 is the water that they draw from the supply line. 15 Uh-huh. 16 MR. HARRISON: You mean tap water? 17 THE WITNESS: And the water filtration plant 18 is the site water filtration plant, not the city water 19 20 filtration plant. MR. HARRISON: Right. It's not POTW or 21 whatever those things are called. 22 BY MR. MARTIN: 23 So there is no, in your view, no connection 24

between the site itself and the city water treatment

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1	plant or POTW?		
2	A There's a connection, but it's a supply line.		
3	Q Only a supply connection?		
4 .	A Right.		
5	Q Thank you.		
6	MR. HARRISON: And where does the water go		
7	after it's treated at your onsite treatment plant?		
8	What's the discharge route?		
9	THE WITNESS: The discharge is into a storm		
.oʻ	drain that runs through the site and into Bald Eagle		
.1.	Creek.		
.2	MR. MARTIN: Okay. Thank you.		
.3	THE WITNESS: I was confused on the city		
.4	water treatment plant.		
.5	MR. MARTIN: No, that's fine. I was		
.6	confused, and I wanted to make sure that was clarified		
.7	before we proceeded.		
.8	BY MR. MARTIN:		
9	Q Back to the general issue of fugitive		
. 0	emissions from the site, you did see vapors from		
1	stockpiles on the site, and you also did observe		
22	fugitive emissions which resulted from operation of the		
23	incineration unit itself?		

stockpile were on the  $\operatorname{--}$  reintroduced ash to the stock

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Right. For the most part, the vapors on the

-- to the --

Q This is ash that, shall we say, was going in the second time around?

MR. HARRISON: Had to be reburned?

THE WITNESS: It was ash that would have to come in another time, yes. And there was still heat maintained in the ash when it was displaced back out in the feed zone, in the hot zone.

BY MR. MARTIN:

- Q Not 900 degrees kind of heat, but still hot?
- A Hot enough to, you know, on a cold day in January or December show steam.
  - Q Cause substantial vapor and steam?
  - A Substantial, not to the extent where it is as it's coming off the bottom ash. But when you turn the pile over or dump it off the truck, load it on the truck and dump it off the truck, there's steam coming off of it.
  - Q When you witnessed this steam, and when you observed the fugitive emissions from the TDF pad, shall we say?
    - A Right.
  - Q Did you inform other personnel on the site of your observation?
    - A Yes, continually.

1 When you say continually, was that, would you say, pretty much on a day-to-day basis? 2 Day to day, every day that the plant was in operation and the -- every day that the plant -- pretty 5 much every day that the plant was in operation, and I 6 filled out a shift report, I would -- there's a place in the shift report for fugitive emissions that are noted and observed. 9 And I made it a point to fill that in when I observed fugitive -- what I assessed as fugitive 11 emissions. I was called on that. Let me ask, did you turn in your shift 12 13 report, then, on a daily basis? Pretty much every day I was there, yes. 14 15 Pretty much every day I was there. And you noted consistently the fugitive 16 17 emissions you observed in your shift report --18 Α Correct. -- that you turned in virtually on a daily 19 20 basis? Right. 21 Α So you told other personnel on the site not 22. only what you saw orally, but you also made a written 23 observation --24 Α Right.

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1	Q of what you saw?		
2	A Right. And I was called on that by my		
3	supervisors.		
4	Q Can you tell me who they were, your		
5	supervisors?		
6	A The one that had the most impact and the one		
7	that I'm sure of was David Modricker. I think John		
8	Ricard brought the shift report to my attention, said		
9	David wants to discuss this fugitive emissions with you.		
LO	And I carried it back to David and said this		
Ll	is the way I see it. This is a fugitive emission. And		
L2	I was told that it's not to be it's not a fugitive		
L3	emission. And I don't know his exact words, but I was		
L4.	told this was not a fugitive emission.		
15	I mean, there was contention there. I said		
16	this is the only way I can assess this is it's a		
17	fugitive emission at least from the process. I mean,		
18	that's what we're looking at here.		
19	Q Let me ask you, why did you believe what you		
20	observed was a fugitive emission?		
21	A The reason I believed what I saw was a		
22	fugitive emission was that this process was to		
23	Q Take a moment to think.		
24	A Yeah, it's important. In my assessment, it		
25	had the high potential for contamination being released.		

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That the condition -- all the conditions were right to let this stuff vaporize to become volatilized if it had not completely volatilized coming through the kiln not meeting optimum temperatures.

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If it comes out and is sprayed with scrubber water, it was my common sense assessment that if you take a chemical of concern that liquifies at 560 some degrees, and you run it through a kiln to that temperature and possibly slightly higher, it's not all going to volatilize.

It may not all volatilize and be taken up in the air pollution train. And when it's conveyed to where it's into the open air once again, and there's steam emitting from it, my common sense judgment was there's a good chance that there's contamination coming off in this steam and being given a medium to be carried away with the dust, dust particles alone potentially.

- Q If I may ask at this juncture, not only did you see vapor, steam, therefore, coming off of the incineration unit, did you --
  - A Off of the wet ash drag.
  - Q Off of the wet ash drag.
- A Conveyances to the ash handling, the ash storage, yes.
  - O Okay. Did you also smell any odor?

A Yes. There was a very pungent dirt odor, for lack of a better term. There was an instance where I accompanied OHM's QC, quality control people to the top of the wet ash drag where it dumps onto the radial stacker.

You would sample the ash, you would have to open a hatch and grab an ash sample. This is when we were at Level C early on.

MR. HARRISON: What does that mean, for the record?

THE WITNESS: Level C personal protection is respirator -- have a filter respirator, Tyvek suit. And I'm standing next to him when he's sampling this ash, and steam is permeating out of the openings as it hits the radial stacker.

And a burst of steam coming across our masks broke through, penetrated the respirator. And the report that I carried back to Dave Modricker was this breakthrough was this sickening sweet aromatic that you can smell on site when you're -- on a normal day's operation, on a normal day's walk-around. I mean, it was an aromatic. I mean, there was something there that --

BY MR. MARTIN:

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Q If I may ask, when you say it broke through,

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did it break through your respirator in particular?

Yes. Yes.

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And the form of the breakthrough, was that a rupture in the unit?

No, it was steam -- it was explained to me that the steam will penetrate your filters and carbon or whatever. And once that happens, you're to leave and change out your filters and report it, and that's exactly what I did.

If I may ask, how quickly did the carbon filter unit in the respirator unit become, for lack of a better term, engorged?

Broken through where I could notice it, immediately. As soon as -- well, immediately as soon as I had gotten a major burst of steam. Now, this is the point in the wet ash drag where he's opening a hatch at the top of the wet ash drag where it drops kind of in a hopper to the radial stacker.

And for the most part, there's some degree of enclosure, there's tarps over the radial stacker. A big puff coming through that opening and coming around -and it's consistently coming around that opening, you can kind of avoid it.

There's double dumps that operate and kind of surge this stuff through and not. So it's when they're

operating in one position, you'll have a moment to get 1 in there. And when they're not, there's a surge of wet 2 steam coming through. 3 And it was on one of those surges that we were standing through several of them, that I had taken 5 6 a hit and it broke through on the respirators. Are you familiar with a situation in which an 7 IDLH occurs, immediate danger to life and health on 8 9 site? 10 MR. HARRISON: The concept, you mean? 11 THE WITNESS: I'm familiar with the concept. 12 I've never experienced one there to that regard. Is that your question? 13 MR. HARRISON: Well, how do you know you 14 haven't experienced it? 15 16 THE WITNESS: Good question. BY MR. MARTIN: 17 Did you have any physical effects after your Q 18 19 respirator unit was ruptured or the carbon filter was fulminated? 20 Α No, just this scent and taste of whatever was 21 22 there.

Q What did you do then?

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A Which it subsequently became second nature out there. This is why I was raging.

So if I may ask, this occurred more than 1 2 -The first time it occurred, I carried it back 3  $\mathbf{A}^{-}$ to David Modricker and said this is -- you know, I explained the situation. And he carried it to health 6 and safety. And as far as what happened after that, I'm 7 not sure. Eventually, they moved the sampling location 8 .9 of the bottom ash to where it would alleviate the problem. 10 11 MR. HARRISON: The problem of --12 13 14

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THE WITNESS: The potential problem of breakthrough on your respirator. And here's what happened subsequently; there was ongoing industrial hygiene sampling taking place on the pad around the wet ash drag in these areas that I'm concerned about, which OHM's health and safety had undertaken.

And they acquired sufficient data for their certified industrial hygienist to make an assessment and to call for a downgrade on the level of protection required for the pad.

And that was -- that's when I called and asked Modricker to get someone to get us a second opinion on this. This doesn't sit well with me at all. And David said he's in touch with the Corps's certified

1 industrial hygienist and said he's coming. And he did subsequently come. 2 MR. HARRISON: Kurt, pardon me. Before you 3 4 go on, explain what the downgrade was. THE WITNESS: The downgrade was there was no 5 detection of beta-naphthylamine or I quess there were 6 7 four or five chemicals that they were sampling for and analyzing for with draker tubes. 8 9 BY MR. MARTIN: 10 0 They were looking for as many as five major contaminants of concern? 11 I think --12 The most significant one being 13 beta-naphthylamine and/or BNA? 14 In my estimation, yes. And my understanding 15 is that they had non-detects. 16 MR. HARRISON: Who are the "they" you're 17 18 referring to? The certified industrial THE WITNESS: 19 20 hygienist, health and safety on the site. MR. HARRISON: Who works for? 21 THE WITNESS: OHM. And I asked Modricker to 22 23 call in someone that's going to give us a second

opinion, get a good chemist out here or get someone out

here that's going to be able to reassure me that this is

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not as absurd as it looks to me.

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MR. HARRISON: But hang on, Kurt. My question was to clarify the downgrade you're talking about; what would it mean for the worker in terms of level of protection and equipment they would or wouldn't wear for this downgrade to take place? What would be the change?

THE WITNESS: The change was you no longer need a respirator and for the most part, you no longer need a Tyvek vehicle suit.

MR. HARRISON: I just wanted the record to be clear about that.

THE WITNESS: The change was from Level C to Level D.

MR. HARRISON: You could lose your respirator?

THE WITNESS: Yes. And there were times when they would -- if there was an operation going on on the TDF pad, they would require a modified Level C if it was wet conditions or something like that.

Or they would require a Level C if it was inside the kiln operation where they would take and break it apart or if the ash conveyer was open and there's a dust condition, potentially, they would go to a Level C for the people working in that area.

But for the most part, it went from Level C to Level D and stayed there throughout. And I called --after I had spoken with our industrial hygienist, who came -- he finally came up, and there was a girl from Baltimore that come up and was there for a week, and she stayed on late the one -- she worked the second shift, I think, the one evening, and I came in early, and we went over and I walked her through the process and gave her some insight on the incineration control room operations.

And she expressed similar concerns as to -- I mean, when she was there, there were times when the TDF pad was foul, really foul smelling, burnt dirt smells, et cetera, whatever -- the burnt dirt category is pretty broad. I mean, it's a pretty nasty smelling operation.

And she expressed equally the concern that, you know, it's ridiculous to be out there without a respirator. And that's how I felt. And I felt that the -- and I would go out there for a 15 or 20 minute trip through the TDF pad and through the zone and go out there every two hours and do the walk-around, but I wouldn't have to be out there all that long.

And I thought for the guys that were out there all night long, somebody is not taking this into consideration. I mean, apparently -- and their

explanation was they were. They did eight-hour time 1 2 weighted averages on the sampling for industrial hygiene. on and a sure is foreign to the same of And their certified industrial hygienist made 5 the call to lower the level of protection, based on the data that they collected through those samples. BY MR. MARTIN: 7. 8 Your recollection, however, was that after 9 the downgrade of protective equipment from Level C to 10 Level D --11 Personal protective equipment. 12 Personal protective equipment from Level C to 13 Level D, the problem and exposure, certainly for workers, persisted? 14 15 Yeah, the potential exposure problem was 16 there throughout, yes. MR. HARRISON: We probably should clarify. 17 You used the word "potential"; is that because workers 18 19 -- you're not sure workers contacted steam or dust or 20 vapor, or because you're not sure of the chemical constituents of those? 21 THE WITNESS: Well, all of those things, I 22 I know they're on the pad, and if they're out 23 there -- the potential is there in my assessment and the

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wet dust condition was there throughout, and they would

be -- what in my view was a non-successful characterization of the components of that wet dust and steam as it was coming off real time exposure, not a day later or whatever, I was uncomfortable with simply OSHA guidelines that said -- I was uncomfortable with their decision to do that, to go there.

I was uncomfortable that they weren't in Level B. Which maybe -- I mean, that's what I expected to see. I read data; I had read information on the chemicals concerned, and if we're trying to protect the people on the project as best we can from potential exposure to a carcinogen, you don't want them to be exposed to, I would think at least in the feed prep, they'd want to consider doing that.

#### BY MR. MARTIN:

A Or -- yes, that's the only one I was -- I mean, I'm sure there were several; toluene and there's probably a list of others out there. The MSDS sheets for beta-naphthylamine, even OSHA calls for a Level B.

And that carcinogen would primarily be BNA?

Q In your recollection, were employees at the site ever dressed out in Level B?

A I don't remember seeing anybody in Level B.

I think there were one or two instances when kiln dust
was introduced to the feed in the feed prep building to

help to aid in getting consistency, and to some degree drying the feed to optimize what you're getting into the kiln.

And I think there were -- I don't know if it happened when I wasn't there, I think there might have been a night when I wasn't or a day-shift episode where they actually had action levels that required either to evacuate, to leave Level C or to go to Level B. And I'm not sure if they went to Level B or not. I don't know for a fact.

Q Do you recall, therefore, an incident where an evacuation may have been ordered or was ordered?

A I think there was one or two occasions where health and safety had pulled the people out of the feed prep because of volatile -- the VOC meter read higher than the action level, which may have been 50 parts per million. I'm not positive on that.

Q And to clarify for the record, on at least one occasion your respirator unit was compromised, was ruptured?

- A I experienced breakthrough.
- Q You experienced breakthrough?
- A Right.

Q Were there any other occasions when that occurred?

1	. A No.
2	Q Were you aware of any other occasions when
3	that occurred for other personnel on the site?
4	A I don't know that it was ever reported by
5	other personnel. The QC that I was with, in my
6	estimation, experienced breakthrough and would follow
7	health and safety and routinely change it out. He's
8	also to routinely report it. I don't know if you'll
9	find I don't know if you'll find that documented.
10	Q Was this a QC person on your shift?
11	A Yes.
12	Q Was this a person who reported to you or who
13	was a colleague of yours?
14	A Right, he was a colleague.
15	Q So there may have been other instances in
16	which respiration units were compromised but not
17	reported?
18	A That's very possible, yes.
19	Q Did you report the breakthrough in your unit?
20,	A Yes, to David Modricker, who in turn went
21	with me to health and safety and expressed the concern.
22	Q Did you report both orally and in writing the
23	breakthrough of your respiration unit?
24	A I don't know that it was documented. I would

assume health and safety documented the incident.

don't know that I documented it.

- Q After you had reported the breakthrough in your unit to Mr. Modricker, he took corrective action?
- A He carried the information to health and safety with me and made them aware of it. And it probably -- I don't know, but it probably wasn't long after that that the certified industrial hygienist downgraded the level of protection required on the pad.
- Q And what was the reason given for downgrading the level of protection from Level C to Level D near the pad?
- A They ran the required OSHA sampling events and had analyticals back with non-detect. There was nothing -- there's not a problem there.

MR. HARRISON: They said.

THE WITNESS: Their assessment to the data that they compiled from their sampling gave him justification in lowering the level of protection because there was no detection of chemical concern to me at that point, and to them also, beta-naphthylamine that was in -- I suppose in OSHA's guidelines a problem for workers.

MR. HARRISON: How did you feel about that?

THE WITNESS: I was raging. I was raging.

MR. HARRISON: Why?

THE WITNESS: Because I'm thinking these guys

-- I'm out here with the understanding that we're going

to be able to keep this a clean process so I don't have

to deal with this concern, first of all.

And when it's not cleaned, if -- I repeatedly asked them to give me a sample and analyticals on the steam to show me what numbers there are there. I mean, if it's less than OSHA, that's fine to some degree.

But if I'm out here thinking that I'm going to not be exposed to any more than .0001 parts per million, which is where I wanted to be, then that's what I needed to -- I needed someone to assure me of that.

I mean, I needed to be able to assure the boys that were working with me and the QC and the boys on the pad that that's, you know, this is a pretty safe clean operation at that point.

MR. HARRISON: So why weren't you assured by the OSHA tests they did? Did they test the steam, the OSHA tests?

THE WITNESS: They couldn't adequately sample and test the steam.

MR. HARRISON: They told you that?

THE WITNESS: They told me that. They told me that. The pumps -- the draker tubes and the pumps running air through the draker tubes couldn't be placed

46 right in the steam because the pumps would fail; and 1 2 therefore, it was kind of the perimeter of this major portion of the steam which would kind of wave down 3 across the pad, and I was uncomfortable that they 4 5 couldn't adequately sample the area that I was concerned with, what I was concerned with. 6 7 BY MR. MARILL: ± 8 So the assurance from site management that the emissions coming off of the TDF pad were not a 10 threat to workers and did not exceed the OSHA limit or 11 standard --

A I was told by my supervisors that they were not emissions.

Q For the record, your supervisor informed you that what --

A These are not fugitive emissions.

Q What you had seen and what you had smelled and what in one case had ruptured your respiration unit was not a fugitive emission?

A Right.

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MR. HARRISON: Bob, there's an issue about the respirator that Kurt is probably assuming everyone knows, but it isn't known on this record, and that is when the downgrade happened on the personal protective equipment from Level C to Level D, it was done by OHM

for OHM workers on the TDF pad.

It was not initially done for Army Corps.

You need to tell Bob for the record what happened in terms of your right per option to wear respirators when this downgrade happened.

THE WITNESS: Are we ready? It was the certified industrial hygiene testing and sampling and analyticals that was done for everybody working on the pad.

### MR. HARRISON: By OHM?

THE WITNESS: By OHM. And we were partners in this operation; and therefore, it applied to us as well. I asked Modricker to get us some backups for it, get us a second opinion on this.

And he called in our certified industrial hygienist from Baltimore, who may have been somewhat unfamiliar with hazardous waste at site operations, I don't; I don't know.

But he came, and he walked around the site and saw the operations and sat in on kind of an inhouse quality assurance office meeting with me and my staff initially.

And I expressed the concerns, I expressed the concerns about taking -- not running at optimum temperatures and persistent fugitive emissions, as I had

seen them, and having to deal with this day in and day out with the knowledge that their OSHA testing was ongoing and the IH testing was ongoing and they justified that downgrading. And initially, he was of -- the information was if you feel you're out there and need to be out there -- your job requires that you're out there and if you feel the need to wear a respirator when you go out there, you should wear one.

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And your staff, if they feel the same, should wear one. This was later refuted by our supervisors that -- I don't know which came first. I think it was initially at a supervisors meeting with OHM, I'm not sure of the timing here, but these are two events that happened.

I sat in on an 8:00 supervisor's -- working night shift, I sat in on an 8:00 which is held in OHM's office, and it was the practice of me and the staff that worked with me on the night shift to do our rounds through the hot zone, through the ash handling, through the fly ash handling in the required Level C protection.

The water treatment plant was in the hot zone, but it's a modified Level C inside the water treatment plant. So the boys that are in there all night long and come out just to take a break are in modified Level C.

We're going through the zones, the hot zone and passing through, inspecting the water treatment plant briefly on our way through just to see if it's operating and what's operating and perhaps what capacity the discharge tanks are approaching.

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And it was my habit not to take my respirator off, not to -- because you got your gloves on, and to take your respirator off, you got to take off some of your gloves, deal with your hard hat and deal with your respirator, and there's potential for contamination if you're out playing in the feed prep, not playing, but dealing with the feed prep and ash handling facilities, you've got dirt on you.

And I didn't want to -- there's no decon, so to speak, coming into and exiting the water treatment plant. So it was my practice and the boy that worked with me on that shift if he was walking with me, to leave our respirators on and go through the water treatment plant and look at things and move on.

This was OHM's -- I'm not sure what -- if he was project manager, I'm not sure what title he goes by, made an issue of this with the Corps of Engineers, Dave Modricker in particular, that I shouldn't do this, that I was to take off my mask when I came into a modified Level C zone.

1	BY MR. MARTIN:
2	Q And why were you told to do that?
3	A Because it would there was difficulty
4	communication-wise with the people in the water
5 .	treatment plant and it would compromise the confidence
6	in the level of protection that they were being afforded
7	if we wore masks, wore respirators, and they were there
8.	all night long without them.
9	MR. HARRISON: It would be a perception
10	problem?
11	THE WITNESS: Yeah, it was a perception
12	problem.
13	BY MR. MARTIN:
13 14	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception
14	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception
14 15	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception problem?
14 15 16	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception problem?  A Yes.
14 15 16	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception problem?  A Yes.  Q Who said that?
14 15 16 17	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception problem?  A Yes.  Q Who said that?  A The same one that complained that I was doing
14 15 16 17 18	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception problem?  A Yes.  Q Who said that?  A The same one that complained that I was doing this, that I was not following the required level of
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception problem?  A Yes.  Q Who said that?  A The same one that complained that I was doing this, that I was not following the required level of protection procedures.
14 15 16 17 18 19	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception problem?  A Yes.  Q Who said that?  A The same one that complained that I was doing this, that I was not following the required level of protection procedures.  MR. HARRISON: Do you know who that was?
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q Did anyone say that would create a perception problem?  A Yes.  Q Who said that?  A The same one that complained that I was doing this, that I was not following the required level of protection procedures.  MR. HARRISON: Do you know who that was?  THE WITNESS: It was Rick Santucci. Rick

THE WITNESS: Yes. And it was pretty much impressed upon us that we would follow OHM's example as to what level of protective equipment we wear and follow the procedures at that point.

To get back to our certified industrial hygienist, I don't know the sequencing here, but he said to wear our respirator whenever you felt the need to; it made perfectly good sense.

But again, subsequently, it was -- the decision was made that that's not the position we would take. We would follow OHM's guidelines of protective equipment.

MR. HARRISON: What does all this mean for you being required to wear respirators after this point? Could you wear a respirator when you wanted to on the TDF pad after that downgrade and this conversation?

THE WITNESS: No, not unless -- unless it was -- they change the level of protection that was required. We had to follow OHM's --

# BY MR. MARTIN:

- Q So if OHM did not wear --
- A A respirator.
- Q -- you did not?
- A Right.

MR. HARRISON: So it wasn't just the water

treatment plant?

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THE WITNESS: No.

MR. HARRISON: It was the TDF pad generally?

THE WITNESS: It was the project overall.

#### BY MR. MARTIN:

Q It was the site operations in general?

A Site operations, right.

Q If I could ask a couple more questions, and then after that, we'll take a five-minute break or so before we get into the general issue of the air monitoring system.

A Okay.

Q But to close out on the fugitive emissions issue, you saw and smelled fugitive emissions on the site and in one case your respiration unit had ruptured. On more than one occasion, I believe, correct me if I'm wrong, you advised other personnel, including site managers, of fugitive emissions on the site, and you were told that there were no fugitive emissions?

A I was told that these were not considered fugitive emissions. I was told that the space on the shift report that was developed, that I helped develop, was that these emissions, the wet dust and the spills under the quench were not to be assessed as fugitive emissions.

And I think that -- and I'm not positive, but 1 I'm thinking the rationale was that they're not leaving . 2 the site. 3 Q Were you ever told directly what the 5 rationale was? If I was --6 Α Take a moment to think. 8 If I was, that's what it was. The rationale was that these, you know, these are not leaving the 9 site. My concern was process fugitive emissions. 10 11 Q And why were you told that they were not leaving the site? On what basis was that conclusion 12 reached? 13 The perimeter monitoring says this isn't 14 Α happening. There's not a problem there. 15 16 Q Okay. MR. HARRISON: Before you take a break, Bob, 17 there are two fugitive issues you might want to touch 18 on. One is the quench, and I don't know if you've 19 20. actually stated for the record today what comes out of the quench and what's supposed to come out of the quench 21 in your experience. 22 BY MR. MARTIN: 23

of the quench, the fugitive emissions you personally

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Before you reply to the question on the issue

· 1 noted, did you record your observations in your shift 2 report? 3 Α Yes. Did you also record your observations in --4. did you have a personal logbook? 5 6 Yes. 7 So you recorded your observations both in your shift reports and in your personal logbook? 8 9 Perhaps not as -- on my shift report, I 10 tried to -- every chance -- it was a persistent problem. It was ongoing -- in my eyes, in my estimation, it was 11 an ongoing fugitive emission. 12 When I was told that this is not a fugitive 13/ emission, this doesn't need to go down in this section 14 of this report, this shift report, I don't know if there ..15 was a time there why I just didn't do shift reports or I 16 don't know if I stopped making those observations. 17 I'm thinking I persisted, and I know I didn't 18 let up on the personal pursuit of sample the steam, tell 19 me -- characterize -- tell me what's in this steam, give 20 me a number, instead of saying it's less than what OSHA 21 says you're allowed to be exposed to. 22 And who told you there were no fugitive 23

A David Modricker explained to me that these

emissions?

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were not to be -- these are my words, I don't recall exactly what he said, but these are not to be assessed as fugitive emissions.
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- Q Let me ask you another question; were there compilations of your shift reports done on a daily basis for site operations?
  - A Yes.

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- Q And what were they called? What was that called?
- 10 A The daily --
- 11 Q The daily report?
- 12 A Daily report, right.
- Q Did the daily reports reflect your recorded observations of fugitive emissions at all?
- 15 A I don't think so.
- 16 Q Did you ever read a daily report from the 17 site?
- 18 A That showed a fugitive emission?
- 19 Q That showed a fugitive emission?
- 20 A No.
- 21 Q Do you have --
- 22 A Did you? Did you?
- Q No, I have not yet reviewed the daily
- 24 reports.
- 25 A Okay.

1 Do you have in your possession, perhaps not here but in your residence, your logbooks and/or copies 2 of your annotated shift reports? 3 I don't have any annotated shift reports. I kept a log, kind of a personal log of activities and 5 important issues that I wanted to address, perhaps the 6 following day, or to follow up on that were pretty much 7 8 to keep me in line and so I could recall what was 9 important for the most part. Initially, I would take my personal log and 10 11 copy it and attach it before an actual shift report was 12 developed and attach it to data sheets that were 13 accumulated sometimes hourly, sometimes every couple of hours if the plant wasn't operating every four hours on 14 15 the operating parameters set out for the incineration,

for the kiln.

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I would attach my notes to that data sheet. for my shift and that would be compiled by John Ricard or someone on day shift who would do the daily report.

So you do have your personal logbook?

I've got some, right. I've got some of my --Α yes.

Who prepared the daily report for the site operations?

I think for the most part, John Ricard. Α

1	. Q Did any daily report ever note, for example,
2	the situation in which your respirator was ruptured,
3	compromised?
4	A Not that I know of.
5 '	Q Did you note that in your shift report when
6	that occurred?
7	A I can't recall. I don't know. I can't
8	recall.
9	Q But you did speak of it to Mr. Modricker?
10	A I carried it to David, which was the most
11	direct way of me getting information and results.
12	Q I understand.
13	MR. MARTIN: Why don't we take a five-minute
14	break?
15	MR. HARRISON: Before we do, and if you don't
16	want to interpret these points I mean, this is your
17	time, but there are other, as I noted before you asked
18	these questions, some other fugitive-related issues we
19	can get at after the break. Do you want me to do them
20	or not?
21	MR. MARTIN: Yeah.
22	THE WITNESS: Yeah, they're worth touching
23	on.
24	MR. MARTIN: I would invite you to do that.
25	We're going to take a let's say we will take a

1 ten-minute break. We're now off the record. (A recess was taken from 7:42 p.m. until 8:10 2 3 p.m. ) MR. MARTIN: After about a 15-minute break, 4 we are ready to proceed with further statements 5 regarding the Drake Chemical Site by Mr. Davis. 6. 7 THE WITNESS: And we're going to continue with the fugitive emissions issues? I don't know if I . 8 9 even listened to what you just said. You just said we're back on --10 11 MR. HARRISON: We won't forget the story. 12 MR. MARTIN: So you want to address several 13 fugitive emissions? MR. HARRISON: A few points. MR. MARTIN: Several points relating to 15 16 fugitive emissions? MR. HARRISON: Precisely. This is not my 17 information. This is Kurt's information. He just 18 hasn't fully explained it, and I thought you might 19 20. benefit. MR. MARTIN: All right. Go ahead. 21 MR. HARRISON: Kurt, explain to Mr. Martin 22 the emissions, if any, of liquid or solids from the 23 quench that you've observed and also explain the normal 24

functioning of the quench and what should or should not

be emitted.

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THE WITNESS: My assessment of the process is that if what's to be enclosed in the process escapes, that in my estimation is a fugitive emission. And in the air pollution train, right after the secondary combustion chamber, there's an evaporative cooler, the quench tower, and there was difficulty with maintaining an effective flow-through for the quench nozzles to bring the temperature from 2,000 degrees out of the secondary -- roughly 2,000 degrees out of the secondary to less than 500 degrees before it enters the bag house.

A real critical point in the process, if the temperature is higher than that, there's an interlock -- if the temperature is higher than 490 to 500 degrees, there's an interlock going into the bag house.

If the temperature is that high going into the bag house, there's an interlock which will shut off waste feed and open the thermal release valve, TRV. Persistent difficulty getting quench flow to where it would effectively reduce the temperature without creating a wet bottom on the quench.

MR. HARRISON: What is a wet bottom?

THE WITNESS: A wet bottom is the water is

not evaporating completely to the extent where it floods

the bottom of the quench. It washes into the conveyance

system on the bottom of the quench tower which is to pick up some particulates, fly ash, and that would slop onto the TDF pad.

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That in my assessment was a fugitive emission. And I think I documented it in my shift reports frequently. And it was then routinely washed into the sump pump on the TDF pad and pumped back into the lagoon and the zone.

MR. HARRISON: Where did that water eventually go from the lagoon?

THE WITNESS: The water was then treated as site water.

MR. HARRISON: By?

THE WITNESS: In the water treatment plant on site. And I'm trying to make them adhere and comply with the contract. The contract won't let them treat process water.

MR. HARRISON: In the water treatment plant?

THE WITNESS: Indirectly, my assessment was this is what's happening here. We're not meeting what we need to meet here. That was one area.

MR. HARRISON: Do you want to mention the original design for controlled wet dust that you observed in a drawing and to what extent it was implemented?

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THE WITNESS: Construction drawings, contract drawings, some that I've reviewed showed a wet dust collection system that was circled, clouded we would call it, and a note that there was a hold or to put on hold.

MR. HARRISON: What was the purpose?

THE WITNESS: The purpose of the wet dust collection system was to alleviate the potential for fugitive emissions from the wet dust and steam from this conveyance.

MR. HARRISON: Including from the ash?

THE WITNESS: Including from the ash. The original design of the operation was -- the reason the radial stacker was there, this is like a conveyer belt on wheels that was designed to rotate on radius and dump the bottom ash into the appropriate one of six or seven bins that were laid out on the radius.

That was not done. I don't know what the -I don't know why, but it wasn't done. When I got there,
there were -- there was a straight row of ash, bottom
ash handling storage bins and radial stacker dumped
right into the middle of them, which eliminated any
possibility of -- I mean, it created a problem to deal
with wet dust that comes both off the ash when it's
deposited in the ash storage bin and the conveyance

system to get it there.

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Those are engineering controls that I thought, and I'm sure some people think in hindsight, would have made good sense. I would think some people would think in hindsight would have made good sense.

MR. HARRISON: After explaining exactly what that wet dust control system would have done with steam coming off the ash, had it been implemented as designed, where would the steam have gone?

THE WITNESS: I'm not positive. It would have gone one of two places, I suppose. I think back into the air pollution train, prior to the secondary combustion chamber where any residual --

MR. HARRISON: Organics?

THE WITNESS: Organics or whatever would have been dealt with through the secondary combustion and on through the process in the scrubber. That didn't take place. That wasn't there. And it was a question. I said who put this on hold? And there was no -- I didn't get an answer.

MR. HARRISON: So there was an initial design, a system designed to control steam off the ash, preventing it from escaping into the atmosphere and send it back through some aspect through either the combustion process or air pollution control or both?

1 A Right.

2 MR. HARRISON: It wasn't implemented?

THE WITNESS: Right.

BY MR. MARTIN:

Q Were you told at all why not?

A No.

MR. HARRISON: That's enough for me for the moment for the fugitive emissions.

THE WITNESS: And one other thing that was a concern of mine when I was out there with respect to the air permit and the potential fugitive emissions. The sprung building is under negative pressure. It's to be maintained under negative pressure.

This is the feed prep building where all of the site soils are screened and moved around and delivered to the incinerator. There's an air handler in there outside of that building that draws the air out and into a charcoal filter type piece of equipment, two banks of charcoal filters, some HEPA filters on the sprung building wall, and a fan to draw the air from the sprung building and into the HEPA filter equipment container, the carbon filter, excuse me, equipment and out the top, out a vent at the top.

There was maintenance required on both the filters, the HEPA filters to -- that drew the air

through from the sprung building into the charcoal canisters, the charcoal filter, and there's a maintenance schedule provided by the manufacturer of the charcoal filters themselves that required sampling of the charcoal itself to determine at what point it was saturated.

OHM set up a -- and it was in the air permit, it was a measurement through a conduit tube, a piece of tubing that ran the length of the structure and turned into the exhaust port at the top.

This is beyond all the charcoal filtration where they would open a valve and with the PID, I think it's a PID instrument, it reads volatile organic compounds in parts per million.

And the criteria was that if -- I'm not sure of the numbers, but if it read five parts per million to ten parts per million, it was to be checked. It was to be checked daily and measured daily.

And if it were to read above, I think, ten parts per million, it was to be checked further or sampled further. And I raised some questions on the accuracy of sampling and analyzing through that -- the length of that tube with the hand-held instrument and questioned if we could require the contractor to sample the carbon to both determine its point of saturation,

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its percentage of saturation and what constituents were in there.

I mean, we're reading parts per million, but we didn't know what. And actually, what the log routinely showed was no reading coming out of that sample port.

MR. HARRISON: A non-detect?

THE WITNESS: Well, it's a PID, so it noted

-- one or two parts per million, I think, it might have

read at the most. On a couple of occasions, on my night

shift, I got together with the health and safety officer

who carried the PID instrument and we sampled that port,

and we got higher than ten parts per million.

It was above an action level, in my assessment, and it would require further sampling. BY MR. MARTIN:

Q How did you do that sampling?

A We did it with the same -- to my understanding, the same as the day shift health and safety people, QC people sampled, with a hand-held PID. And that was part of the concern.

It's are we sampling it routinely wrong to not get a reading, or are we sampling it adequately to get an accurate reading? Either way, the question is the same, are we doing the most we can here to assure

that this doesn't need to be -- we don't need to sample the charcoal?

Q Because you did find a disparity?

A Right. And it could have been my reading. It could have been the time we went out, we may have read it inadvertently, introduced something that would read volatiles, and I just needed -- I wanted someone to follow up on that. I had difficulty getting that -- I never got that accomplished.

But they routinely sampled every day and came up with non-detects. There's a differential pressure meter that reads the pressure coming into the canister and the pressure going out of the canister.

And when it's pegged at six, it's not operating effectively in my assessment. The explanation to me was, there's a pre-filter, a screen on the bottom sides of both of those charcoal beds that would get clogged up; and therefore, you get a differential pressure.

And I don't know what the resolution was with that, but it's something that I thought needed further attention. I thought simply to maintain the manufacturer's required sampling at that point would make more assurances that there's not a problem coming out of the top.

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MR. HARRISON: Coming out of the top would basically be the vapor being emitted into the atmosphere?

THE WITNESS: Right.

MR. HARRISON: From the building.

#### BY MR. MARTIN:

Q Was there more than one occasion when you sampled with the hand-held PID instrument or was that a single occasion?

A One occasion with the PID that I can recall.

MR. HARRISON: You probably should move to your story on the monitoring. We are running out of time.

#### BY MR. MARTIN:

Q Please go ahead.

A All these concerns for adequately sampling what we're dealing with on the pad relate to concerns for fugitive emissions in light of the perimeter air monitoring system that was set up to read for certain organic -- volatile organic compounds.

And MRI's monthly reports that I subsequently, after my first few weeks there got to review, clearly stated that they weren't getting what they had set out to get. They weren't meeting their contract requirements is the way I understood this.

mR. HARRISON: Regarding?

THE WITNESS: Regarding recovery of a surrogate, 4-aminobiphenyl, which was used to give information on what beta-naphthylamine would show up as.

MR. HARRISON: In the perimeter monitoring.

THE WITNESS: In the perimeter monitoring.

And percentages of recovery were much lower than they wanted and were much lower than they would be able to quantify the numbers that they were trying to get.

MR. HARRISON: For BNA.

THE WITNESS: For beta-naphthylamine.

## BY MR. MARTIN:

Q When did they become aware of this problem?

A MRI had this in their reports from July, I think, and possibly whenever -- I think when they started the operation, they had reports pointing out that they're having difficulty getting recovery and quantifying numbers that would get them to the detection limit set out in the contract.

This was a concern to me, and I carried it to Modricker, to David Modricker and said what's happening here? What's going on, you know, is this -- this isn't good news. Is this good news? Is this bad news? What is this?

And he said well, they're working on it. MRI

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and their air chemists are working on it with the Corps of Engineers center for expertise, the air chemist in Omaha, stationed out of Omaha, which was Jim Cheney and Bill Crawford.

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And that's where it went. That was the answer. And I had trouble with that. I had trouble knowing that we needed to have this thing operating in light -- even if this thing were operating as clean as it possibly could, wouldn't it be important that that were operating, and they could tell us that we're meeting contract requirements here? And they said they're working on it.

Q For what period of time was the air monitoring system on the perimeter not meeting contract requirement?

A It's my understanding that it never did with respect to beta-naphthylamine. It's my understanding that if -- and I don't know what's happened since I left; I don't know what's happened.

Q When you say it never did, meaning during your tenure --

A From September 23 through February.

Q To your recollection, and that's based on discussions with site personnel and also --

A It's based on MRI's monthly reports. The

contractor required to do that, made note of them on the first page of the reports, as I can recall, and referred to the pages that had the data.

Q And where would those monthly reports be?

A They're on file in the administration trailer and the QA trailer, I would think.

MR. HARRISON: Kurt, there's one more aspect to the story. Do you want to say it now?

THE WITNESS: Yeah. MRI had an environmental scientist come up to the site intermittently to work on the meteorological station that's -- record the meteorological data on the site and also the off-site operations with the off-site monitors.

And in the course of conversation with MRI's

-- the people doing the work -- the question was raised,

I think this is prior to actually seeing the monthly

reports, the question was raised how -- I'm asking him

how effective is this, you know --

MR. HARRISON: The perimeter monitoring.

THE WITNESS: The perimeter monitor, how effective is it at telling me what's in the air? My initial concern was what am I spelling out here? I mean, I can smell this somewhat sweet kind of odor that is prevalent around the site, and I don't feel comfortable standing in it, first of all, but can you

tell me what it is?

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And there was actually no characterization that could say this is what you're smelling at any one particular time, but I was concerned. And I expressed these concerns to MRI's personnel, and I expressed -- I subsequently expressed concerns with MRI's personnel as to what's the matter with the monthly reports, you know, why isn't this system doing it? Why aren't you getting to the limit that you thought you could get to?

MR. HARRISON: On detection on the perimeter monitoring?

THE WITNESS: On detection of beta-naphthylamine in the perimeter monitors, the perimeter air monitors. And in that conversation, it somehow came out that they pretty much knew, someone -- or perhaps it was an assumption or a consideration or a concern that they may not get to the detection limit using the method TO-13 they prescribed -- I'm thinking it's TO-13, the prescribed EPA method for this contract to detect for beta-naphthylamine.

MR. HARRISON: Be clear now. What time period were they talking about when they said they had this concern that they wouldn't meet the method -- that it wouldn't work; is that what they were saying?

THE WITNESS: I think they knew -- they

pretty much knew -- this is what I -- I think they 2 pretty much knew they couldn't get that detection limit 3 using that method. MR. HARRISON: When did they know it? 5 THE WITNESS: Before they bid the contract. MR. HARRISON: Who do you think knew that? I 7 don't mean a name, I mean a category? THE WITNESS: The people required to do the 8 9 work knew that. 10 MR. HARRISON: MRI's people? . 11 THE WITNESS: Right. 12 MR. HARRISON: And did they communicate that 13 to anybody? You may not know the name, but --THE WITNESS: I would think so. I would 14 think that was explained, and it was bid the contract as 15 16 it is if you want the job. 17 BY MR. MARTIN: Do you believe they communicated that to OHM? 1.8 I honestly can't say I -- I don't know who 19 that was communicated to, but the response was use this 20 method, bid the contract using this method, period, 21 pretty much period. 22 23 Were there any detections using this method? Were there any levels of detections using this method? 24

No, not that I know of. I think there were

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estimates that if it were there, it would be at a number lower than this, but higher than what we set out to get to.

MR. HARRISON: There's one detail you might want to say. It's not perimeter monitoring, but there was a detection of BNA on site that you were told about at one point in the steam sampling. Just briefly tell about the details of that.

THE WITNESS: I was pressing continuously to have them sample -- adequately sample and analyze the steam, the wet dust. And I think at the very last -- one of the last two trials at risk burns, I think it was Focus Environmental, a subcontracting firm, set out a sampling train to run -- I'm not sure if it was an eight-hour, it couldn't have been an eight hour.

I believe the trial burns ran for eight hours, but I think that was what they shot for to get -- to be able to adequately sample and analyze the steam for beta-naphthylamine. And I think they ran three runs.

I'm not sure of the reports. I'm sure they're documented somewhere. But one of them came back with a detection of beta-naphthylamine above a certain number.

I don't know the numbers, and I'm not real

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sure of what was back, but the one that was -- that put in question that there may actually be some beta-naphthylamine coming off this steam was dismissed as having come in contact with the ash, with the ash itself.

MR. HARRISON: The sampling probe?

THE WITNESS: The sampling tip, the probe, yeah, which is a tube, I'm thinking, drawing the air which had to be -- and I don't know for sure, but if it's in the steam and it's in the west dust, it had to pretty much be covered with the wet dust and ash anyway.

So I raised some concerns. I was just -- I was pressing for them to sample it and analyze it. And when the results finally came back, which was months, possibly two months after the sampling event took place before I heard them give the results, and that was after I left the project. And I don't know if QC was -- or QA was involved with that sampling event.

## BY MR. MARTIN:

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Q Did you record any of your observations about the perimeter air monitoring system in your personal logbook about its operation?

A I think my only comment on a shift report may have been that it's up and operating.

Q Uh-huh.

1	A If it's actually intermittently running
2	sampling, it's up and operating. MRI, for the most part
3 '	they staffed the trailer and OHM's QC compiled their
4	information and put it together in a report, a QC report
5	which in turn, the Corps of Engineers handed to the EPA.
6	Q Uh-huh.
7	THE WITNESS: Let me go off the record a
8	second.
9	MR. MARTIN: Okay.
10	(Discussion held off the record.)
11	MR. HARRISON: By the way, Bob, we have about
12	20 minutes left. There are a few important things I
13	think Kurt would like to share with you when you're done
14	with your list.
15	BY MR. MARTIN:
16	Q MRI did note in their monthly reports the
17	failure of the perimeter air monitoring system?
18	A Yes.
19	Q Did the failure include use of the state
20	limit for detecting BNA? I believe there was a state
21	limit
22	MR. HARRISON: For occupational exposure?
23	MR. MARTIN: Perhaps. Let's say for
24	occupational exposure.

THE WITNESS: Yeah, that was, that's what we

-- I think that's ultimately what allowed them, what gave them justification. In my assessment, if they didn't get there -- when I carried this flagged information up to Modricker after I first viewed it and seen it, it was how can we do this?

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How can we continue to let them operate if they're not meeting the contract requirements for something as perimeter air monitoring? And he said they're working on it.

And I think what you just said, as far as less than the state is going to require us to meet our estimates are that we will fall below that number. And that's the rationale. That's where they went.

BY MR. MARTIN:

Q Below the state occupational limit, however, above the contract limit?

A Right. And those are numbers -- I'm thinking those have got to be numbers that are estimated. I don't know. I don't know. But I'm thinking if you can't recover a sample, you're going to have to guess at what's there.

I don't know how it's done. I don't know the science involved, but I'm sure someone looked at it real hard and decided we can say this. We can say that we're below a state annual toxicity guideline possibly. I

think I may have heard that. I didn't know.

Q Given the state limit and the contract limit, which are two different limits, do you believe detection remained problematic with the air monitoring system at the fence line? In other words, you still faced persistent problems in getting detections of BNA, they were using different methods and different limits?

A There was some modifications in the -- right, in the recovery aspects. I don't know what the different recovery limits were.

- Q They were trying different things?
- A Right.

Q You remarked earlier that detections in the air monitoring system at the fence line remained problematic during the operation on the site?

A Recovery of samples, I think, remained problematic. Beyond that, I don't know what the detection numbers -- how they assessed or determined that. I don't know. But I think they were -- and it's documented in MRI's reports. I think MRI's reports are accurate with what they were able to and unable to do.

- Q But you did do not recall recoveries, specific recoveries?
- A I think there was consistently low percentages of recovery on the surrogate, yes, and I

	CONT. C. KITOW II. 4-FP 14. 11.
2	Q On the surrogate for BNA?
3	A Right.
4	MR. MARTIN: All right. You wanted to make
5	other observations.
6	MR. HARRISON: Well, he has information, I
7	think, that he's prepared to share with you. Did you
8 .	want to start with the logs, your personal logs?
9	THE WITNESS: Yeah, I got these notes that
10	were pretty much it's kind of a combination of notes
11 .	from to myself for myself. And some of it is
12	relevant to what happened over the course of my work out
13	there.
14	A lot of them need explanation, I'm sure.
15	And a lot of them I may not be able to explain. I may
16	not be able to recall. But I think it's important
17	it's information that you might I know you would have
18	better use of it than I to delve into this if that's
19	what you intend to do.
20	MR. MARTIN: That is what I intend to do.
21	THE WITNESS: And I would like you to have
22	them.
23	MR. MARTIN: I will accept them for the
24	record.
25	MR. HARRISON: Now, do you want to provide a

1	copy or the original or do you want to receive a copy or
2	the original?
3	MR. MARTIN: Do you have at this time just
4	the original?
5	THE WITNESS: I have
6	MR. HARRISON: Just a copy tonight, but he
7	has the original in another location.
8	MR. MARTIN: I would accept a copy this
9	evening, yeah.
10	MR. HARRISON: All right. Is that
11	acceptable?
12	THE WITNESS: That's fine.
13	MR. HARRISON: Do you wish to turn the
14	original over to him later?
15	THE WITNESS: I feel comfortable giving you
16	this information and not having it vanish, and I feel
17	comfortable doing that.
18	MR. MARTIN: It will not.
19	MR. HARRISON: Do you want to turn the copy
20	over now?
21	THE WITNESS: Yeah.
22	MR. HARRISON: Let's talk about the memos
23	after you hand him the logs.
24	THE WITNESS: Okay.
25	MR. MARTIN: Thank you.

1	MR. HARRISON: Kurt, are there other
2	documents in there?
.3	THE WITNESS: There's other documents
4	MR. HARRISON: You should go ahead and
5	THE WITNESS: that are pertinent to
6	beta-naphthylamine detection method with sulfuric acid.
7	There's kind of a memorandum here from the quality
8	assistance team information that has to do with steam
9	litigation meeting where they're trying assess the best
10	way to deal with the steam recovery, steam
11,	MR. HARRISON: Emissions?
12	THE WITNESS: Emissions, yes. To mitigate
13	this steam problem.
14 .	MR. HARRISON: To your knowledge, were any
15	solutions that came out of these steam mitigations
16	implemented for solving this steam problem?
17	THE WITNESS: To my nothing prior to the
18	trial burn and risk burn. There may be something in
19	place
20 . `	MR. HARRISON: After your departure?
21	THE WITNESS: Subsequently.
22	MR. HARRISON: I'm not asking you, you
23	know
24	THE WITNESS: After I left in February, they
25	may have put something in place that would deal with

this steam.

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MR. HARRISON: Or they may not?

THE WITNESS: Or they may not.

BY MR. MARTIN:

Q But to your knowledge, during your tenure, these solutions were not implemented?

A These solutions were not implemented. And prior to the trial burn, the solutions that would have required introduction back into the air pollution train were not implemented. So whatever happens now, happens beyond the incineration train, the air pollution train.

MR. HARRISON: Let's be clear about that,
Kurt, in its implications. If they were to implement a
system now, such as the one you described earlier, and
perhaps as one of the things described in this memo
which would capture the steam and send it back into the
combustion process or the air pollution control process
at some point, which would mean eventually, it would
come out the stack or some residue of it would come out
the stack.

THE WITNESS: That was a resolution that would have had to have taken place before the trial burn.

MR. HARRISON: And why in your opinion should it have been done before the trial burns?

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1	THE WITNESS: Well, I think that's stated in
2	these meetings.
3.	MR. HARRISON: Give us the obvious answer.
4	THE WITNESS: It would affect you would be
5	reintroducing potential contaminants.
6	MR. HARRISON: That would come out the stack.
7	THE WITNESS: That you would have to deal
. 8	with and measure.
9	MR. HARRISON: In terms of stack emissions,
10	destruction efficiency, and risk assessment, am I saying
11	what you believe to be the case?
12	THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes.
13	MR. HARRISON: So if they do it now, the
14	emissions might be different than were relied upon in
15	the trial burns and risk burns if they put the steam out
16	the stack?
17	THE WITNESS: Yeah, I think they know they
18	can't do it now and go with this trial burn
19	MR. HARRISON: Still allow this trial burn?
20	THE WITNESS: This permit that's pending or
21	is in place. I guess there's a permit in place.
22	MR. HARRISON: Permit equivalency.
23	MR. MARTIN: That's correct, permit
24	equivalency is in place.

MR. MARTIN:

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If they had -- they meaning site

1	manage, had an opportunity to implement corrective
2	action that you just brought up.
3	MR. HARRISON: For steam mitigation.
4	MR. MARTIN: For steam mitigation before the
5	trial burn and
6	THE WITNESS: They had an opportunity to do
7	it before they started burning contaminated soil also.
8	BY MR. MARTIN:
9	Q Okay. And to the best of your recollection,
10	during your tenure, they did not?
11	A Right.
12	Q And what is the consequence of not doing that
13	before the trial burn and before burning contaminated
14	soil?
15	A In my assessment, the consequences would be
16	potential hazardous exposures from fugitive emissions
17	and the inability to implement them back into the system
18	because it compromises the integrity of the trial burn,
19	which is really important, isn't it?
20	MR. MARTIN: Yes, it is.
21	MR. HARRISON: Some of us think so.
22	THE WITNESS: This is a steam litigation
23	meeting. These are logs, I think somewhat
24	chronological

MR. HARRISON: They might be a little out of

order.

THE WITNESS: There's going to be stuff in here that I'm jotting down as a good through and may not be 100 percent, so you may need some interpretation on some of it.

MR. HARRISON: Kurt, are you prepared to take questions from Mr. Martin later to clarify what these mean?

THE WITNESS: I would be happy to.

MR. MARTIN: Thank you.

THE WITNESS: This is QC data.

MR. HARRISON: Quality control?

THE WITNESS: Right. QC data with percentages of BNA in the feed and in the ash and percentages of removal from 9/29 to November 13, which is -- what I was saying, this stuff, it's not doing what it needs to do.

Tell me what's in the steam. Tell me what's in the fugitive emissions and assure me that it's okay to be out here and my boys -- it's okay for staff to be out here in this stuff.

MR. HARRISON: Kurt, the QC document you're providing to Mr. Martin, is this a copy of an original of yours or --

THE WITNESS: This is a copy.

1.	. MR. HARRISON: You're retaining a copy?
2	THE WITNESS: Right. And it's stuff that's
3	in with my time sheets, which you probably don't need,
4	right? I don't see that you
5	MR. MARTIN: Oh, no. I will take for the
б	record what you have.
7	THE WITNESS: Okay. You got the whole
8	shebang.
9	BY MR. MARTIN:
10	Q While you're reviewing your documents, a
11	brief question, did you ever have any reason to question
12	the physical integrity of the air monitoring network, in
13	other words, the connections of the air perimeter
14	monitors to the chromatographs in the trailer? Did you
15	ever have any reason to question whether the linkages
16	were operational?
17	A No.
18	Q You did not?
19	A No.
20 .	MR. HARRISON: Did you inspect them yourself
21	at any time?
22	THE WITNESS: I didn't inspect them
23	regularly, but I think pretty much like no, I didn't
24	inspect them regularly.

BY MR. MARTIN:

1	Q Was the point ever raised that the problems
2	with recoveries from the air monitors on the perimeter
3	might also be caused due to the tubing?
4	A Yes, and temperatures, and I think they
5	address those sufficiently and with the engineering
6	data. I think they address those issues that they could
7	draw through the heated conduit a sufficient quality of
8	air to do what it needed to do. I don't know what the
9	resolutions were with the failure to recover the
10	surrogate.
11	Q But do you recall the problem being raised or
12	discussion at least?
13	A Somewhere I may have seen it in a document,
14	yes.
15_	Q Okay. And you're not particularly aware of
16	the resolution?
17	A Right.
18	Q Okay. Any of the issues which you've raised
19	this evening in this statement, would they cause you to
20	be concerned about the outcome of the trial and risk
21	burns that were performed at the site, the integrity of
22	those tests?
23	A No, nothing that we discussed to this point.
24	MR. HARRISON: How about something that you
25	haven't discussed?



THE WITNESS: Well, there is something that we did discuss that it's simply a concern that I have -- I don't want to sound like I'm accusing or --

MR. MARTIN: I understand.

THE WITNESS: But someone -- I asked for help early on to get clarification on -- an introduction and a good hangle on the continuous emissions monitoring trailer. This is not MRI's work. This is OHM's QC work with continuous emissions monitoring trailer.

Part of our routine was to observe -somebody on QA staff was to observe the OHM's QC,
observe OHM's instrument technician calibrate continuous
emissions monitors.

I asked -- early on, I asked -- and usually I didn't have to do this. It wasn't my requirement. I would work night shift, and the day shift would -- QA and QC in the CEM trailer.

I asked for some help, some technical assistance. And when Jim Cheney and Bill Crawford come out, that's where I thought I would get this assistance, understanding the calibration procedures and subsequently what QC's responsibility was to document those calibration procedures.

When Jim Cheney and Bill Crawford were out, when they went to the CEM trailer, I asked to get into

the trailer with those guys so they could personally show me what's happening and how it's accomplished and where it's done like it is.

And it may have been one of their first times into the CEM trailer. And it is a small trailer, but the response was initially yeah, okay, you can come with us, and we'll give you a handle on it.

But then there was not enough room in the trailer. They said we'll do it another time, there's not enough room in the trailer. And I didn't get any technical support or instruction when I went at that point.

And subsequently, it never happened with our experts from Omaha. The time frame approaching the trial burn or getting close to where the trial burn was coming, it may have been late December, early January, I was there in the morning and did a CEM QA oversight on QC for the daily calibrations.

And I understood what the instrument tech was doing as to what he explained to me and what the QC explained to me. And the question that I raised was on the sheet that I was to initial, there's a column for drift, which would be a calculation of the actual reading and how far out the instrument was in, I'm assuming, a 24-hour period and a column for that data to

go for the drift, how far it would have been out that day.

It may have been a drift -- a weekly drift or a monthly drift, I'm not sure, but the information wasn't filled in in that column on that sheet that I was to initial. And my question is was why isn't it done that way? Why won't you transfer those numbers there and simply put them down in the space you're to do it?

And the response was we're working on calibration drift, and we'll compile that information soon, forthcoming. I never saw it. Not that it didn't happen, but I never saw it.

MR. HARRISON: Was there a change in equipment at the site?

THE WITNESS: Yeah. And I think it was accepted knowledge that the CEM trailer was maybe not -- I don't know how to best explain it. It was doing what it needed to do, but it may not have been --

MR. HARRISON: State of the art?

THE WITNESS: State of the art where they wanted it to be -- where I expected -- where they expected it to be, QC and OHM, et cetera. And after the trial burn, it's my understanding that it was brought up to state of the art.

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MR. HARRISON: Why?

THE WITNESS: OHM pretty much removed and reinstalled to where it did what -- it looked a lot better than it did when it was in operation. And I questioned why, if we got plenty of time up front, and this thing is this important, why don't we do it while the incinerator is sitting cold and there's time to do it?

MR. HARRISON: Before the trial risk burn?

THE WITNESS: Yeah, before it continued on.

And it was something they'd get to. Someone should look at it. I mean, I think it's important that someone ask the question, you know, what did this look like before and how did you have to -- the procedures that you had to go through to get numbers, calibrations, and the drift, a drift check on how far out this stuff operates daily, weekly, and monthly. It would be interesting to see those numbers.

## BY MR. MARTIN:

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Q So the practical effect of the CEM unit and trailer not being state of the art might have been that the detection of contaminants of concern was --

MR. HARRISON: In this case, we're talking stack emissions?

MR. MARTIN: Right. In this case, stack emissions problematic, difficult?

1	MR. HARRISON: Less than accurate?
2	MR. MARTIN: Less than accurate?
3	THE WITNESS: Well, I don't know.
4	MR. HARRISON: That's the point.
5	THE WITNESS: I don't know.
6	MR. HARRISON: And you had the oversight, and
7	you didn't know?
8	THE WITNESS: I don't know. And when I
9	raised these issues, I was tasked to comprehend that it
10	was all okay by Tom Conroy, Corps of Engineers. He was
11	out there early on. And he came over with me.
12	BY MR. MARTIN:
13	Q You say you were tasked to find that it was
14	all okay?
15	A Right.
16	MR. HARRISON: To reach an understanding?
17	THE WITNESS: Right. And the understanding
18	that I reached what I came away from there and was
19	willing to agree to Tom Conroy, was I'm observing the QC
20	verify that the instrument tech is calibrating the one
21	of five or six instruments and documenting the numbers
22	that will get him to zero and read zero on the computer
23	monitor in the control room.
24	And that as I observe him with the numbers
25	that he's reading and writing down, I'm observing those

numbers, and what I have a question with is we're not 1 2 filling in this column over here. MR. MARTIN: The drift column? 3 THE WITNESS: The drift column. MR. HARRISON: Both numbers you're comparing 5 6 the same, the instrument and the computer. .7 THE WITNESS: Via a sheet that gave you calibration instructions with addition and subtraction 8 9 of certain numbers parts per million, the numbers were coming out to zero or within the drift that would have 10 been documented, how far out the instrument might have 11 been, but the drift column was not filled in. 12 13 BY MR. MARTIN: So the instruments upon calibration showed 14 15 near zero or at zero, but the drift column was never filled in? 16 17 . A Right. On the hard copy, on the hard page? 18 Q Α Right. 19 Was dioxin ever monitored for periodically in 20 the stack as part of the CEM during the risk or trial 21 burns? 22 Dioxin, yeah, dioxin was monitored by MRI. 23 Α MR. HARRISON: With the CEM special sampling 24

method.

THE WITNESS: By MRI.

MR. MARTIN: Using a probe?

THE WITNESS: Right.

MR. HARRISON: And would not be continuous.

MR. MARTIN: We're prepared to close, I
think. Do you have other documents you want to share?

MR. HARRISON: I don't know of any more

documents. I think there are three or four more points you should just be aware of real quick.

On the automatic waste feed cutoffs, was there a system in place, Kurt, to your knowledge, for example, on the PH from the scrubber that when a condition of operation exceeded your operating perimeters in the permit equivalency, was there a system that allowed a continued period of operation out of compliance before the waste feed was shut off or didn't this shutoff happen automatically immediately?

THE WITNESS: The PH could operate within a range. I'm not sure whether it is six to eight, possibly. If it spiked below six -- I'm not sure of the number -- it had 60 minutes to correct itself, the caustic flow and the mix of it in the scrubber and circulation back through past the instrument probe where it was read, where the PH was read in the probe, it had a 60-minute time frame to get it back in line before it

shut off waste feed.

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MR. HARRISON: Were there incidents in which the PH probe was removed around the 59 minute time to essentially avoid a waste feed cutoff to recalibrate back to start recounting from zero?

THE WITNESS: Say that again.

MR. HARRISON: Were there incidents in which there was a PH problem where you operated out of compliance with this range you mentioned, this operating perimeter range, six to eight or whatever, for 59 minutes or so, something close to 60 minutes, and then one of the technicians removed the probe and stuck it in PH, in caustic, or in water or something to give up a reading that did not represent operations which would reset the automatic waste feed cutoff system back to zero minutes and it would start counting again back to 60; did that ever happen?

THE WITNESS: Yes. Well, it happened that the probe -- if it spiked out of operating parameters, the clock would start. And in order to recalibrate the probe, you would have to pull it from the solution, clean it off, pull it from the circulation of the scrubber water, clean it off, and calibrate it in a neutral solution to an unknown quantity of an accurate number of PH.

And it was really fine; it was a really close number. So it was always difficult to get that calibration right on, right in there. I think when you're dealing with five digits, it's a really tough instrument to get down to a thousandth or whatever it might be.

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It's real tight. It's a real tight number to get to. And there was -- and I guess the complication was the caustic solution -- there was difficulty maintaining and getting a calibration on the probe and getting it back where you're comfortable with it and getting it back into and on line within 60 minutes, within the 60 minutes before you had to shut off waste feed.

And this was probably happening at a time when a shut off of the waste feed was important because of the problems that they're having with the kiln, the temperatures were up, they're running hot, they're high and there's a slag -- concern of slag in the kiln if you got to shut off the waste feed, and it kind of -- they didn't want to have to deal with it.

MR. HARRISON: They didn't want to have to deal with what?

THE WITNESS: They didn't want to have to deal with the shut off. But that's not saying they

intentionally kept --2 MR. HARRISON: 3 4 5 6 7 that's what happened. 8 9 occasion? 10 THE WITNESS: 11 12 13 wasn't there. 14 15 16 17 episode. But, yes, it happened. 18 19 20 21 to recalibrate it, and put it back in, the clock starts 22 running again. 23 MR. HARRISON: It has that effect. 24

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I understand. THE WITNESS: -- kept running through, pulling the probe and resetting the clock. MR. HARRISON: Just to avoid the shut off? THE WITNESS: Yeah, I'm not saying that MR. HARRISON: They did remove the probe on They removed the probe pretty much every time they couldn't get it to come back on One incident in particular, the caustic solution MR. HARRISON: The tank was empty? THE WITNESS: The caustic wasn't able to be added. And the question was is the probe out or is the caustic solution on line? It's a pretty well-documented And I'm not saying that they intentionally pulled it out and set it in a neutral solution to reset the clock. But inadvertently, if you take the probe out

THE WITNESS: It would take some 30 minutes

or 45 minutes to recalibrate to put it back in and it 1. 2 starts the lock again. MR. MARTIN: So removal of the probe did result in avoiding an automatic waste feed cutoff 5 whether ---THE WITNESS: Inadvertently or --6 7 MR. MARTIN: Inadvertently or --8 MR. HARRISON: Either way? 9 MR. MARTIN: Yeah, had the same result. THE WITNESS: And then the issue -- the 10 resolution of Bhupi Khona was to put a redundancy in the 11 12 probe, a second probe in line that they could go -- they 13 could switch from one to another and always have a probe 14 on line. 15 And then the operating parameters were set 16 that if it spiked below the operating parameters, the waste feed would shut off, you would shut it off. 17 would be up to the operators to say this has to be shut 18 19 off. 20 MR. HARRISON: It wouldn't be done 21 automatically? 22 THE WITNESS: No, it wouldn't be done 23 automatically. 24 MR. MARTIN: And that was a result of --

THE WITNESS: And it wouldn't be done

automatically.MR.system that Bh

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MR. MARTIN: And that was a result of the system that Bhupi had implemented of putting in a redundant probe?

THE WITNESS: No. I don't think the redundant probe ever actually went on line. It was the result of a couple of episodes of running out of compliance with the acid, with the PH being acidic in the scrubber, yes.

MR. HARRISON: So is it your understanding, Kurt, that for the shutdown to occur based on a PH parameter exceedance, it would require a decision by a human being to manually shut it down?

THE WITNESS: That's how it was.

MR. HARRISON: That's how it was run?

THE WITNESS: Right.

MR. MARTIN: There was no such thing after that point as an automatic waste feed cutoff, you would have to have a manual waste feed cutoff?

MR. HARRISON: After what point?

THE WITNESS: If you didn't pull the probe, after one hour, it would shut off. It would interlock. It would shut off the waste feed.

MR. HARRISON: So it was manual in the first hour, automatic after an hour?

1	THE WITNESS: It was
2	MR. HARRISON: It wouldn't shut down within
3	the first 59 minutes unless a human being decided to do
4	it?
5	THE WITNESS: Right.
6	MR. HARRISON: But it would shut down in 60
7	minutes unless you pulled the probe?
8	THE WITNESS: Right.
9	MR. HARRISON: Did Mr. Khona, from EPA,
LO	recommend any changes in the operational procedure
1.1	regarding this 60-minute delay to shut off?
L2	THE WITNESS: Yeah.
13	MR. HARRISON: What was the change he
14	recommended?
15	THE WITNESS: And I think it was a consensus
16	that after possibly the second episode where this
17	condition occurred where you could calibrate and reset
L8	the clock, it was we changed policy. And as soon as
19	the PH spiked below the operating parameters, the
20	operator was to shut off waste feed.
21	MR. HARRISON: Manually?
22	THE WITNESS: Manually. They didn't
23	incorporate an interlock where it would shut off
24	automatically, which the capability was there.

MR. HARRISON: They chose not to do it?

THE WITNESS: It would have required some computer -- yeah, some input.

MR. HARRISON: Last point for me. Would you -- well, two points. Did you feel the Army Corps had adequate technical training and experience to provide oversight of OHM on this incinerator so that if OHM made a technical mistake or decided to be technically dishonest, that the Army Corps would catch them, catch the mistake or dishonesty? Just tell it like you know it, whatever the answer is.

THE WITNESS: I think the consultants -- I think the construction management staff that was on site throughout the operations had to rely heavily on OHM's QC and operators for technical experience, expertise.

And the amount of technical training and expertise that was provided to me personally, I felt was inadequate.

MR. HARRISON: All right. Did you ever talk with Gregg Crystall of EPA, the project manager, about your feelings about whether the incinerator would work or not?

THE WITNESS: Yeah. Let me explain where I'm coming from. You're running out of time?

MR. HARRISON: Yeah.

THE WITNESS: I left this project

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unwillingly. February came around, and we were into a new phase of work, got through the trial burn, and we had -- the staff had some options, you can stay here or you could -- you could put down your preference, stay on the project or other places, options of where you might want to go to work until next September when we should be back on line.

I wanted to stay here. My second option was -- they sent me to a fish and wildlife construction site down in West Virginia. I was sent to West Virginia. It wasn't necessary for me to be there.

And I had issues that I wanted to follow up on, but it was -- I didn't get the opportunity to deal with it. I left here thinking this thing is going to prove itself without a doubt that it's not going to work.

When I came back in September, I was informed that they didn't need me to sign on for another term and there was some complaint by my administrative practices with the car -- with the government car early on when I went down there.

Anyway, when I was no longer required to be there, I was still under the assumption that there's enough weight and evidence that this thing has serious problems, it would -- someone would come to their senses

and say this is not going to make it. It's not going to do it.

That didn't happen. And I wanted to get to the peer review meeting. And I went to the peer review meeting, and I wanted to somehow talk to the experts, both in incineration and industrial hygiene, the health aspects of it, without having to sit in front of Mike Ogden and the people that I worked with that I didn't want to have to deal with.

I'm not very confrontational, and I didn't want to have to confront them and say these things.

MR. MARTIN: I understand.

THE WITNESS: So I didn't really get to sit down and talk with these people. I briefly expressed some things and was kind of dismissed. It wasn't important. Some people took notes and said yes this, this, and this.

But on the way out of there, after the peer review, the second day, second session, I'm walking down the hall, and I'm walking past Gregg, and I say Gregg --

MR. HARRISON: Gregg Crystall.

THE WITNESS: Gregg, this thing is never going to work. It's not going to work. He goes, I know, but now it's up to OHM. We've done our job. And I'll swear to that in front of God and the courts and

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everything.

MR. HARRISON: EPA's project manager.

THE WITNESS: Because it may have been off-the-cuff, but I can't imagine him saying that without thinking about what the hell he's saying. And it was, I know, but we've done our job.

We got them through the trial burn, gave them the opportunity to show that it can't work. They'll prove to themselves that it won't work.

I mean, that was the attitude I left here with last February, that they're going to show that they can't do it. If you just look at the data and the information and the record of what's happened here, it's going to show that this thing is not doing it.

And after the peer review, it looked like the peer review is going to say there's not too much --you know, they're doing everything they need to do out here.

And actually, I don't know the big picture.

I mean, there might be cleanup sites that are much, much worse than this. I'm just thinking there's a contract you got to go by. And if you don't hold to the contract, then you got to justify it somehow, some other way, and that's it.

MR. MARTIN: Thank you. This is concluded and you're off the record.

(The statement concluded at 9:20 p.m.)

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COUNTY OF SNYDER

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## COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

I, NICOLE L. MATTERN, Reporter-Notary Public, authorized to administer oaths within and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and take depositions in the trial of causes, do hereby certify that the foregoing is the testimony of KURT DAVIS.

I further certify that before the taking of said deposition, the witness was duly sworn; that the questions and answers were taken down stenographically by the said NICOLE L. MATTERN a Reporter-Notary Public, approved and agreed to, and afterwards reduced to typewriting under the direction of the said Reporter.

I further certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me on the within deposition, and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my hand this 11th day of March, 1998.

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NICOLE L. MATTERN

Notary Public

## LAWYER'S NOTES

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1	DRAKE CHEMICAL SUPERFUND SITE
2	ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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4	
5	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
6	
7	
8	MEMBERS: DR. ROBERT CARNEIN, CHAIRMAN DAVE HAULMAN
9	LAURA LEE MARY ANN BOWER
10	RALPH HARNISHFEGER
11	DATE: MARCH 3, 1998, 12:05 P.M.
12	PLACE: CITY HALL 20 EAST CHURCH STREET
13	LOCK HAVEN, PA 17745
14	
15	
16	MAINAI
17.	ORIGINAL
18	
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22	NICOLE L. MATTERN NOTARY PUBLIC
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1 DR. CARNEIN: I would like to call this 2 meeting of the Lock Haven Environmental Advisory Committee to order. We have minutes for the last 3 meeting, the meeting of February -- let's see, we have a couple minutes, don't we? 6 MR. HARNISHFEGER: 3rd, 10th, and 17th. 7 MS. LEE: Could we do them separately, 8 please? 9 DR. CARNEIN: Yes. Let's look at the

DR. CARNEIN: Yes. Let's look at the February 3 minutes first. Are there any comments or corrections to the February 3 meeting minutes?

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MR. HARNISHFEGER: I have quite a few actually, Bob. I think that I can work with Pearl to clarify. It's under 2-C, she mentions Dr. Hoberman; it should be Professor Hoberman. And he was city counsel liaison, I think, that liaison should be described to city counsel.

Under Item 6 on the second page, I think where it says M. Harrison told us that A.I.R.'s reviewers did not agree, it was misspelled. The peer reviewers in Williamsport under the next paragraph, I basically have got a lot of changes to that paragraph that I don't think it's time well spent to go over here.

I would essentially add some terms to try to get some clarity that I don't think is there. And I'll

be happy to go over that with Pearl, if you would like. 1 . MS. LEE: Then let's not vote today on it if 2 . we're going to go over it with Pearl. 3 4 DR. CARNEIN: I agree. If you have a lot of 5 concerns and a lot of revisions --6 MR. HARNISHFEGER: I think it would be best 7 if she were here to hear them, you know. 8 DR. CARNEIN: Then maybe the best thing to do 9 would be to table those minutes for now, and we'll come back to them at our next meeting. 10 MR. HARNISHFEGER: Great. 11 DR. CARNEIN: Okay. How about the minutes of 12 13 the -- what was the next one, February 10? MR. HARNISHFEGER: Right. 14 15 DR. CARNEIN: The February 10 meeting. Were there any comments or corrections on these? 16 17 MR. HARNISHFEGER: No. DR. CARNEIN: That was the meeting at which 18 we did not have a quorum, so it was an informal 19 discussion, really. Is there a motion to approve the 20 February 10 minutes? 21 MS. LEE: I don't believe we have to approve 22 them if there was no quorum. It was not really a 23 24 meeting.

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DR. CARNEIN: Well, I wasn't real clear on

1 ... whether there really would be minutes if there was no quorum. But we have minutes here for that meeting, and 2 it says basically we had a discussion on the Martin report and the peer review workshop, which certainly is what we did. MR. HARNISHFEGER: I move they be approved as we have them here before us. 7 8 DR. CARNEIN: Is there a second? 9 MS. LEE: I second that. 10 DR. CARNEIN: It's been moved and seconded. 11 All those in favor, please signify by saying aye. 12 (Everyone is in favor.) 13 DR. CARNEIN: Anyone opposed? 14 (No audible response.) 15 DR. CARNEIN: So we move on to the February 16 17 minutes. 17 MR. HARNISHFEGER: I just have one item under 1-C, the fourth line from the bottom, the word responded 18 19 is misspelled. It should just be responded instead of 20 responsed. 21. DR. CARNEIN: Okay. 22 MS. LEE: I also thought at the last meeting,

there was a motion that was passed about cutting off

comments about the peer review process. I do not see

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that.

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                DR. CARNEIN: Yes, that's correct. Well,
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      let's see. Where would that go?
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                MS. LEE: Somewhere under 1-C, but it's not
     present in the minutes. There was motion, though, that
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     they passed.
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                DR. CARNEIN: I don't remember who made the
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     motion or --
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                 MS. LEE: Pearl should have it written down.
                 DR. CARNEIN: Yeah, that's correct, she
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      should have it. Well, again, maybe the best thing to do
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     would be to table these minutes until we can make a
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     correction.
                 MR. HARNISHFEGER: Right.
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                 DR. CARNEIN: So do we need a motion to
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      table?
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                 MS. LEE: Yes.
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                 DR. CARNEIN: Do you move to table?
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                 MS. LEE: Sure.
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                 MR. HARNISHFEGER: Second it.
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                 DR. CARNEIN: All in favor say aye.
                 (Everyone is in favor.)
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                 DR. CARNEIN: So we'll table the February 3
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      and February 17 minutes. All right. I think we can
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      probably go on and ask Mr. Martin to give his
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presentation or what he's going to do, which I'm not

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really sure what it is. I guess we're about to find 1. 2 MR. CRYSTALL: I'm Gregg Crystall from the 3. Environmental Protection Agency. Do you mind, Bob, if I just go over a couple things? 5. . 6 MR. MARTIN: Please, Gregg, go ahead. 7 MR. CRYSTALL: Dave Modricker is making a 8 couple of copies of things that are going to include 9 repository -- already this morning, the decision 10 document from our regional administrator to proceed with the production burn, the letter -- a copy of the letter 11 Senator Specter, which also went to Senator Santorum and 12 13 Congressman Peterson, which responds to an affidavit from a former Corps employee about things that happened 14 15 on the site. And then there's an Army Corps of Engineers 16 17 letter to me, which goes into more detail about those things. Rusty, those are being copied for you as well. 18 19% I don't know if you got them yet. 20 MR. BOTTORF: No. MR. CRYSTALL: Our plans right now are to 21. 22 start feeding the site soil into the incinerator 23 24 MR. HARNISHFEGER: About noon?

MR. CRYSTALL: Yes, give or take a few

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minutes either way. And that's pretty much all I wanted to say today. Bob is here. I don't know if he wants to make a presentation rather than -- I think what he really wanted to do is hear issues or concerns that the Environmental Advisory Committee or council may have.

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MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Gregg. And, Dr. Carnein, thank you for having me here.

DR. CARNEIN: It's good to have you.

MR. MARTIN: I apologize for not being able to be here earlier last year because of my schedule. And I also apologize for any misunderstandings that may have arisen in connection with the comments of the committee being part of the record for the ombudsman report. They are part of the record. I just wanted to confirm that.

Again, thank you for being with me here today. This meeting is on the record as a meeting with the national ombudsman. I have a very tight schedule today and need to get back over to the site for meetings this afternoon with the Corps of Engineers and the State of Pennsylvania; therefore, I would like to go until about 1:05 or so here.

And how I would like to proceed is to listen to any concerns that the committee has, either about the ombudsman process itself or the site operations. As

Gregg noted, we, meaning EPA, intend to move forward tomorrow with the production of burn. So, Mr. Carnein, the floor is yours or your committee.

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DR. CARNEIN: Okay. Are there any questions, comments from members of the committee?

MR. HARNISHFEGER: I have a question with regards to the draft -- your draft report. The draft report seemed to imply that there were going to be significant issues that weren't covered in the draft covered in the final report.

And I guess my question would be, have you rethought that, and are you planning to issue a revised draft to give people comment time to look at what your revised draft said before you make a final report?

MR. MARTIN: I seem to recall that there were several issues noted in the draft final report that the committee observed that were not dealt with in the interim report; in other words, there wasn't a comment on several issues.

For those issues, which I believe go to alternative technologies, evacuation plan, I believe there was one other, but I can't seem to recall specifically what it was, I understand, Dr. Carnein, that you would ask for additional comment period since the public had not had an opportunity --

DR. CARNEIN: That's correct.

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MR. MARTIN: ---to deal with this. That's granted. There would be a comment period of at least 30 days.

DR. CARNEIN: So there will be essentially a second draft report?

MR. MARTIN: On those issues. In other words, if those issues are treated in this next version of the ombudsman report, there will be an additional comment period of at least 30 days. Thank you for bringing that to my attention.

DR. CARNEIN: Do you have any kind of a time frame right now that you are aiming for in terms of producing a final report?

MR. MARTIN: Yes, sir. The final report will be finished by March 31, this month. In addition, I am planning, along with the region -- our regional ombudsman, Ken Kryszcum, and I have been working together to convene one more public hearing to collect any other public comments before completion of the final report.

And at this juncture, we are looking at, I believe, March 16, if that's a Monday, I'm not certain, here in Lock Haven.

DR. CARNEIN: And the purpose of that meeting

will be to give others who are not necessarily 1 2 stakeholders or the public in general as a \_3 MR. MARTIN: To provide the public in general 4. one more opportunity to make comment publicly and on the 5 6 record in connection with the Drake project. MR. MARTIN: The location has not been precisely determined yet, but it will be Lock Haven. MR. HARNISHFEGER: What groups would you say 9 that you've heard from -- you obviously formulated your 10 11 first draft based on comments from someone, it certainly 12 wasn't our group, who did you seek information from initially for your initial formulation of your draft? 13 Who provided input to you? 14. 15 MR. MARTIN: So the question is, who provided 16 information and/or comments for preparation -- let's be particular, the interim report, the first report that 17 came out? 18 MR. HARNISHFEGER: Right. 19 20 MR. MARTIN: On the Drake site. 21 MR. HARNISHFEGER: It was labeled draft, I believe was the title if I'm not mistaken. Wasn't it 22 called draft on the title of the document? 23 DR. CARNEIN: It was the August 8, I think, 24\_

draft final report.

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MR. MARTIN: Well, there were two reports that have been prepared and distributed. There was a May 8 interim report that was distributed by the Agency, I believe, late in the summer of 1997. And there was also an August 8 draft final report that was distributed by the Agency.

MR. HARNISHFEGER: Right.

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MR. MARTIN: Your question goes to the first report or both of them?

MR. HARNISHFEGER: Yes, both reports; who provided input just in a general sense?

MR. MARTIN: I think if you examine the draft final report, which was distributed on, I believe, August 8 by the Agency, there is a compilation, and the appendix or one of the appendices to the report that shows which entities submitted written comments, you know, for the report.

The interim report, which was prepared in May of last year, shows comments received by the A.I.R. group. And typically, in the ombudsman process, and maybe I can elaborate on this a little more, what typically initiates an ombudsman process is a complaint from a citizen or a group of citizens.

If I go so far as to prepare a formal report or a series of formal reports, that generally begins

with an interim report. My experience has been that most of the comments received at the stage of the interim report come from the complainants or the petitioners, in other words, the people who originally had a problem that they wanted to see addressed or dealt with.

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That is then released for more widespread comment, okay, from various governmental entities, federal, state, local, other citizens' groups, and that is the purpose of preparing an interim report, to take a complaint that was presented by, you know, let's just say the aggrieved parties, in this case, that was the A.I.R., the incinerator remediation group to try to deal with some of those issues in the context of the interim.

And as they're being dealt with, release that and seek more widespread public comment so that I'm not only hearing from the complainants, all right, but from anyone else who has a view or position they want to make known as I move to a final report.

So typically, what you have is when you start with an interim report, that reflects more of the comments and/or concerns of the complaining parties.

And you move to hear gradually from more and more people as you go into a draft final, and then ultimately preparation of the final report.

MR. HARNISHFEGER: Okay.

DR. CARNEIN: I don't know whether you can answer this, but do you feel that your final report will adequately deal with the questions that were raised by A.I.R. and by the other groups who were concerned about this project to begin with?

MR. MARTIN: Well, initially I think that would be premature to say. Secondly, of course, I have made, and will continue to make, a good faith effort to deal with every issue that has been propounded by the A.I.R. group.

But I do want to say in the end, the complainant determines whether their issues have been sufficiently dealt with. I am not the final arbiter in that decision.

DR. CARNEIN: Right. Okay. I guess I'm not sure what I'm trying to get at here, but I guess the problem that all this seems to boil down to for many people is that your final report is going to come out after the incinerator is already in operation.

And I'm sure that some people in the community are going to see that as unacceptable, although I don't know that they can do anything about it. I wonder why there has been such delay in terms of issuing your final report? Why has it taken so long?

MR. MARTIN: So the question is, why has issuance of the final report been extended to the end of March 1998?

DR. CARNEIN: Right.

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MR. MARTIN: I wanted, in preparation of the final report, to have the benefit of reviewing the peer reviewer's comments to the risk assessment. And also, if possible, to discuss with some of the peer reviewers their comments.

I understand from our regional office that the final version of the peer review has not yet been completed. We're not quite certain when it will be. Hopefully, it will be soon. But I intend to do that with peer reviewers. I think that's important to do before completing the final report.

Secondly, I also did want the opportunity to come back to Lock Haven again and meet with the advisory committee to also have another look at site operations, which the Corps of Engineers did very well this morning, and to have the opportunity to meet with our regional folks in the State of Pennsylvania and Corps of Engineers staff this afternoon to discuss some operational concerns at the site which have arisen.

Third, I had not had an opportunity after the draft final report was issued in August to completely

review the trial and risk burn data. I felt that was important as well.

And as to the procedures, if I may comment, I think the agency has made it clear, at least in correspondence to the congressional delegation from Pennsylvania, that the -- there are at least two processes in motion here.

One, the Agency has made clear is the critical decision making path for whether to proceed with operations at the Drake site itself, that's one process. The other process is what's been deemed the ombudsman process.

And I think the Agency has made clear, at least in correspondence, to the congressional delegation that the two are not linked. The ombudsman process does not drive the critical decision-making process for the Drake site.

DR. CARNEIN: I think we've also been -- it's been made clear to us also that that's the case. And that the peer review, for example, was also sort of detached from the decision-making process.

MR. MARTIN: I hope that responds to your question.

DR. CARNEIN: Are there other questions, comments, concerns?

MR. HAULMAN: I'm not sure that I completely 1. understand why they're separated, why those two situations are separated. If the peer review process was a necessary thing to do in the first place, why would the burn begin before final results and final reports from the peer review are reviewed by those making the decision to continue? I don't understand that.

MR. MARTIN: Gregg, do you want to address that?

MR. CRYSTALL: I can answer that, sir. I've mentioned it before in the Environmental Advisory Committee meetings and also in a number of other meetings, we had our risk assessment contractors out at the peer review in Williamsport, and they took more notes than the actual peer reviewers have in their draft report that we've seen.

And we went through the draft report that they submitted. And we feel that we have addressed the significant issues that were raised in the Williamsport peer review and response in the summary.

And my understanding of how that report gets finalized is it goes to the different peer reviewers to check to make sure what they said was what was in the paper.

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And we do not expect any changes at all that would alter what the meaning of the comments were. And we feel very confident that we've addressed all the issues that will be in the final report.

So in a sense, the issuance of the final report is not a critical item to start up the project. But we felt addressing the comments that we actually heard in Williamsport and that we've seen in the draft report was part of the critical path, and that's in repositories.

DR. CARNEIN: And again, on a number of occasions, Gregg has told us that the peer review process would in no way impact the starting date of the incinerator, that the processes are sort of decoupled, almost like the ombudsman process is separate from the -- at least that's how I understood it.

MR. CRYSTALL: And we still stand by the statements that if Mr. Martin's final report brings to our attention something that we have not looked at that we feel is a problem, we will stop the project and consider it.

We will also say that if the final peer review report from the Williamsport peer review shows us something that's not in the draft that we need to address, we'll stop until we address that as well.

So that's still -- the letter to Senator 1 Specter specifically said we will do that in Mr. 2 Martin's report. 3 DR. CARNEIN: Was there a deadline for the 5 peer reviewers to submit their final report? 6 MR. CRYSTALL: I would -- my quess is it's going to be out within two weeks. I saw the draft about 7 8 a week ago. 9 DR. CARNEIN: That soon? 10 MR. CRYSTALL: Yeah. And I think it's really not much to finalize it. 11 12 DR. CARNEIN: I just wondered if EPA had said 13 to the peer reviewers, look, we have to have a final report by this date? 14. 15 MR. CRYSTALL: No. We told them we need 16 whatever information they can give us as early as they 17 can give us so we -- until we felt confident we addressed all the issues that were going to be raised, 18 but the final report is up to them. .19 DR. CARNEIN: Are they putting that final 20 report together themselves, or do they submit the 21 22 material, and then EPA puts it together? MR. CRYSTALL: Dr. Wood, Bill Wood, who is 23. the chair of the risk assessment for -- and the peer . 24

review will put the report together from the comments

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from the peer reviewers.

And actually, he asked our region to comment on the draft report as well as folks in headquarters, Dr. Grevatte, the agency science advisor.

MR. MARTIN: Just to be clear, Dr. Wood is with the Office of Research and Development.

MR. CRYSTALL: That's correct.

MR. MARTIN: Gregg, does the committee have the final response of this summary yet?

MR. CRYSTALL: I'm not sure specifically if they have it -- the City has it. We will get copies to you, Bob, before the day's out for everything that's going into the repository or has gone in within the last few days.

MR. VILELLO: Rick Vilello, Lock Haven City
Council. And I tend to agree, I don't understand why
the processes are separated. I mean, to do the peer
review, to do the ombudsman report, and then to start up
the project a month before these final reports are in
appears to be irresponsible.

And yeah, it's great that the people took notes during the peer review, but the peer review was in Williamsport. A lot of people of Lock Haven couldn't attend, and those notes were never made public.

And I'm glad that the people that work there

feel comfortable that it's safe, but the people in the community don't get that same feeling. And when there's a Senator and everybody else questioning the process and there's an article in the paper that well, we will start now because we're spending \$80,000 a day and it's just wasting time.

Well, nobody in the community caused the chain of events that have taken place there to take place. It's not our fault that \$80,000 a day is being spent at the site.

And if the whole process is going to take place, and there's going to be a response from the community, it seems to me that the community should have a chance to review the final reports because there's such a long time between and the reports are so large.

I mean, nobody is going to review a thousand-page volume that has numbers that only scientists agree. People want to know, is it safe? And I think the ombudsman was supposed to do some of that translation. I mean, that's the whole purpose of it.

And now your final report is going to be a month -- well, you said there's going to be another interim report that we'll have a 30-day comment on, and then your final report is March 31, so how does that time frame fit in when it's already --

MR. MARTIN: If I could address that specifically. There will be a final report issued by March 31. Should that final report deal at all with two or three of the issues that advisory council commented on last fall, two of which I believe are the evacuation plan and alternative technologies.

The advisory council had asked for additional time to comment on those two issues if they were dealt with again.

DR. CARNEIN: Well, to clarify that, I think our concern was that there would not be time -- if you submitted a final report that included those issues, there would not be time for members of city council or the community to comment because it would be a final report and that would be the end of it.

And it wasn't so much that we wanted to comment on it as we felt that the community should have an opportunity to comment on it if there were people who were concerned about some of these issues.

MR. HARNISHFEGER: That was also -- before the forum. The whole thing with the forum came up, and people had an opportunity to comment in that avenue as well.

DR. CARNEIN: Right.

MR. MARTIN: But for those two to three

discrete issues, there will be an additional comment period beyond the final report. Now, there were issues that were addressed in the interim and draft final reports that will be dealt with in the final report to distributed on March 31.

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And that will be -- I'm not anticipating an additional comment period on those. Does that answer your question?

MR. VILELLO: Well, I mean, then the ombudsman process didn't really benefit Lock Haven at all, because the benefits obtained will help the next community when the whole process starts over again, because the incinerator is starting tomorrow at noon and the community still has not had -- I mean, the question is still out there, is it safe?

I mean, one side says it's completely safe, and the other side says no, it's not safe. And the ombudsman was supposed to weigh and, I mean, produce a document that said yes, it is.

Well, with 30 days of burning prior to your final report, you might as well throw the final report in the incinerator.

MR. MARTIN: So if I can recapitulate your feeling on that, the ombudsman process did not benefit the Lock Haven community because the final report will

be issued after the incineration unit starts operation?

MR. VILELLO: Basically. I mean, I don't

know what concerns you're going to address in the final

report. But the community should have a period of

comment on that final report. Even if it's -- I mean,

even if it's glowingly positive.

I mean, the community should say okay, that's great, we're behind you 100 percent, which will never happen, but we are behind you 100 percent, now let's start. But just the fact, the time frame that things happened, there's no way that will ever happen now.

MR. MARTIN: Let me make clear from my perspective as national ombudsman, I am not a decision-making official in the Environmental Protection Agency. I find facts; I make recommendations to decision-making officials within EPA.

EPA decided to not link the two processes, okay? If you recall, the interim report, which was issued in May of last year, spoke to at least my desire to have the unit not begin operation until I was done with my process.

MR. VILELLO: Absolutely.

MR. MARTIN: What I'm telling you is that EPA decided to keep the two processes distinct, much like the peer review process and the operation process are

distinct, and begin operations tomorrow. That was an 2 Agency decision, you know. MR. VILELLO: And that's not your fault. I 3 mean, that's an Agency decision. But there's the 4 Agency, and then the paper runs an article saying well, 6 it's a critical point we're spending \$80,000 a day; we 7 got to start it now. 8 MR. CRYSTALL: Well, that wasn't the only 9 thing it said, by the way. That was a reason. It is 10 definitely a significant reason. \$80,000 a day is a 11 lot. .12 MR. VILELLO: It's 30 million dollars a year. 13 MR. CRYSTALL: It's an awful lot of money; that is one of the reasons. The other reason is --14 15 MR. VILELLO: But why did we get to this 16 point? 17 MR. CRYSTALL: First of all, it's been an awful long process. We've taken a long time getting our 18 19 data from the trial burn out. And it's been an awful 20 long time between all the --MR. VILELLO: All the data, and all the 21 reports have taken -- .... 22 MR. CRYSTALL: And we --23 24 MR. VILELLO: I mean, before all the hiring and all the startup, that place could have sat idle for

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another six months in this whole 14-year process, and we wouldn't be spending \$80,000 a day.

MR. CRYSTALL: I'll say it again; we haven't seen anything to come out of any of the drafts of the ombudsman report, any of the public comments, any of the peer review comments, any municipal comments that's new.

MR. VILELLO: I might agree with you, but the community doesn't.

MR. CRYSTALL: I understand that.

MR. VILELLO: And it's not your fault either.

MR. CRYSTALL: I'm not a decision maker in EPA either. I understand the concern there.

MR. VILELLO: That's the frustration we face.

MR. BOTTORF: Rusty Bottorf, Clinton County Commissioner, B-O-T-T-O-R-F, by the way. I've heard nothing surprising, but I just wanted to make a statement, then ask you a direct question, if possible.

We have heard EPA today, Gregg Crystall, say that the ombudsman's recommendations -- and also Bob said -- the ombudsman's recommendations are not coupled to decisions -- to EPA decisions to burn or not to burn.

However, United States Senator Arlen Specter and Congressman Peterson had coupled those two. And I think it's -- you should be aware of that. If you don't have copies of the letters asking for those two things

to be coupled, they are available, and I can make them available to you.

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So there are elected representatives who would like to see those two things coupled. Also, to mention for some of the people that weren't here last time in the peer review on the Environmental Advisory report, also we're waiting for a final recommendation from ATSDR, which we have not seen.

Their people have actually, I believe, written a letter to Senator Specter asking for additional time for their final report. So that's obviously not coupled to EPA --

MR. CRYSTALL: That letter was never gotten by Senator Specter.

MR. BOTTORF: How do you know?

MR. CRYSTALL: My understanding is that ATSDR has not written that letter that the commissioner just mentioned they may have.

MR. BOTTORF: My understanding is if it isn't there now, it's on its way. I can check that later today. Also, the peer reviewer's final comments are not coupled to EPA decision making. Clinton County Commissioners' requests and recommendations have not been coupled to EPA decision making.

The Lock Haven Environmental Advisory report

obviously then also, I would assume, any recommendations you may make, are not coupled to EPA decision making.

Lock Haven City Council, any decisions they make, are not coupled to EPA decision making.

And my statement on that is that it's not only irresponsible, I agree with the city councilman, Mr. Vilello, but it's also dangerous because we have an agency with no oversight, and that's something we can all think about a little more as we go to bed tonight.

The question I wanted to ask you directly,
Bob --

DR. CARNEIN: I don't know who's in charge of this meeting at this point. Are you in charge of this meeting?

MR. BOTTORF: Well, he pointed at me, so I spoke.

DR. CARNEIN: My reaction to that is that I would appreciate it if you would stick to factual comments or questions for Mr. Martin, and let's not get into another big discussion of this whole issue and how dissatisfied we should be with the process.

I'm not dissatisfied with this process, myself, speaking for myself. And I don't think there's any member of the committee who has indicated, at least up to this point, dissatisfaction with the process.

MR. BOTTORF: Well, I'm not speaking for you. 1 I'm speaking for myself. 3. DR. CARNEIN: Fine. 4 MR. BOTTORF: You can make your comments on 5 the record later. 6 DR. CARNEIN: Are you going to meet with the 7 County Commissioners as part of the process? 8 MR. CRYSTALL: It's set up for 10 tomorrow. 9 MR. BOTTORF: Well, 10:00 is the public 10 meeting. But afterward --MR. CRYSTALL: Right, afterwards? 11 MR. BOTTORF: I wouldn't have a problem with 12 I haven't had any confirmation of it, but I don't 13 think there would be a problem. 14 MR. CRYSTALL: I was going to confirm it with 15 16 you after this. 17 MR. BOTTORF: Okay. No problem. I do have a direct question, if I may continue forward? 18 .19 MR. MARTIN: So the answer is yes? Can we pause for a moment and Ms. Lamey had a clarification. 20.. Gregg, when is that meeting? Is it going to be --21 MR. CRYSTALL: Well, we usually go to County 22 Commissioners meeting, and it usually lasts a half hour 23 or so. And then after that, we would probably -- they 24

would probably be willing to speak with you right after.

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1 that public party. Whether you guys open it to the public or not is your call. 2 MR. BOTTORF: Yeah, I don't -- we're pretty 3 easy going down there. We'll do what we need to do to 4 5 -- what do I want to say -- accommodate you. MR. CRYSTALL: Dan had some concerns about 6 7 not having a full house and stuff like that. MR. BOTTORF: A full house? 9 MR. CRYSTALL: He doesn't want it to be a big 10 circus or anything. MS. LAMEY: Why don't you just have it after 11 12 your regular meeting? 13 MR. CRYSTALL: It is going to be right after. MS. LAMEY: No, but I mean still open to the 14 public. 15 16 MR. CRYSTALL: It's strictly up to the commissioners. 17 MR. BOTTORF: I can only speak for myself; 18 that would be fine with me. Now, a direct question, if 19 I could, to Bob. Bob, in my comments on your draft 20 final -- or on your interim report, I wrote to you 21 asking if you could work -- in your final report, if you 22 could look into finding out, first of all, if we can 23

And the reason they're important would be,

find any Kilsdonk documents.

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for example, you remember a letter from Frank Vavra from EPA, who was responding to concerns from the A.I.R. group that there may be chemicals buried on this site that were not discovered originally, for one reason or another, that may, indeed, be in there.

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In any case, I think there's some evidence -and I can go into that evidence, but I won't at this
time, but there is some evidence that some chemicals,
some important chemicals may have been missed in the
initial investigations on this site.

When Mr. Vavra did his report, he mentioned that he had looked through all the Drake documents and found that the manufacture of those chemicals was not to be found in those documents.

A good example would be pentachlorophenol and silvex, which were found on site, but were never found in any of the production documents from Drake.

I guess my question to you is, have you been successful in locating any Kilsdonk documents from 1948 to 1962 or Pfister chemical documents that would shine new light on that situation?

MR. MARTIN: The short answer to that is I'm working on that. I'm working on that with Wayne Walters, our regional counsel, to get the administrative records certified for purposes of the ombudsman final

report.

In fact, this afternoon, I'm going to want to spend some time in the repository, researching for those documents among others. So it's being worked on.

MR. HARNISHFEGER: Bob, I have a couple comments. Mr. Vilello raised an issue about comments and inability for people to get to Williamsport and so on and trying to put things in terms that everyone can understand.

There was a document, I think it's dated

February 6, and I believe it's in the repository, where

the main concerns in very plain language raised by the

peer reviewers was given -- was responded to by EPA, I

think, again in very plain terms.

And so that is available, and I think you can take a look at that. There's been much discussion about coupling and what's coupled and what's not. The only thing I can say that is if Congress, at the time that this legislation was going through, wanted to couple an ombudsman report or peer review workshop report to the final action, they could have easily done that.

That could have been explicitly stated as a requirement, and it was not done. So, you know, from the standpoint of democracy and if Arlen Specter wants this and whatever, that would have been during that

process when that law was going through, he was certainly a member of Congress in the Senate, and that could have been pushed for. I guess it wasn't.

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MR. VILELLO: Well, I agree with that. But if it was going to be uncoupled, then this city and this site shouldn't have become political football. I mean, it just appears that we're being used, and I don't like it.

And I don't disagree with necessarily the decisions that have been made. It's just like Rusty said, the way the information has been delivered and the way the reports and everything, the whole process has left the public in the dark.

And there's a response time and everything.

But like today, this meeting is taking place 24 hours

before the real startup. Well, this should have been a

month and a half ago.

And it's the whole schedule with the conflicting of the separate issues, the critical decision makers are on one time line, the reports and everything else are on another time line, and maybe a process -- Congress decided that process, but we can disagree with it.

MR. MARTIN: Well, if I could add a point of clarity. When Congress enacted the law creating the

Office of Ombudsman, that was done in 1985, and it was done in a law known as the Resource Conservation

Recovery Act, which deals with operating facilities that generate hazardous waste.

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At that time, the ombudsman process did not deal with the superfund process. EPA decided, in about 1988, to expand the ombudsman process to include not only what we call RECRA concerns, but superfund concerns as well.

So to be fair, Congress never really passed on the issue of whether the ombudsman process should be coupled with the superfund decision-making process.

MR. HARNISHFEGER: But if someone would have wanted it back at that, I mean, certainly the process of ombudsman has a history and government that was not unknown to them that could have included it.

MR. MARTIN: Any person was free, obviously, to go to Congress and make that policy argument.

MR. HARNISHFEGER: Right. Or any of the lawmakers.

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. And I do think it raises, obviously, a very important policy issue for EPA, besides the Congress, to consider it.

MR. CRYSTALL: I understand there's a pushing of Congress right now to expand the authority of the

ombudsman's office and to actually, if not specifically, but to kind of include it in the decision-making chain in EPA.

MR. MARTIN: Yes, that's true.

MR. CRYSTALL: It's being initiated by the gentleman from Michigan, I believe.

MR. MARTIN: Missouri.

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MR. CRYSTALL: Missouri.

MR. MARTIN: Correct. That's true. I also wish to make a point that EPA is not entirely unresponsive to the ombudsman process. There have been ombudsman cases which involve incineration at superfund sites, and ombudsman reports have been filed with the Agency, and changes have been made, sometimes in midstream.

And it's important to recognize that the ombudsman process can begin halfway into, in some cases, the decision-making process at a superfund site. And then I complete my process, in some cases, while the Agency superfund program is trying to run theirs.

MR. VILELLO: Maybe -- I mean, and it's not going to help us here, but maybe in the future, especially with a site like Drake where you can spend \$80,000 a day, the process should start the day EPA declared the state a superfund site, because I think if

this process was explained better 14 years ago, we wouldn't be in this room today. That site would have grass on it right now.

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MR. BRAVARD: My name is Robert Bravard. And this instance, I'm speaking for myself. This process did start that way 14 years ago. I attended meetings for the general public way back at the beginning when the room was filled with people from EPA, and they practically had to go out in the street with ropes to get citizens of Lock Haven in to listen to any of this.

Furthermore, the initial process that was indicated for the Drake site was protested by the Lock Haven City Council and turned down, initially.

The fact is, the superfund law was crafted, if you go back to the legislative history in Congress, with the realization that you start this process, you turn it over to the best scientific minds you have, and once the rule of decision is made and it goes forward, it goes forward, and there is no legal recourse because Congress set up the law that way because they realized after the fact, when something was being done is when various kinds of controversies arise, many of them based on issues which may not be germane to the specific situation. Is that a fair statement, Gregg?

MR. CRYSTALL: Yes.

MR. BRAVARD: And this is independent study going back to the legislative record on my part.

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MR. WELCH: Mike Welch. I got a question, maybe for clarification, but we're going to have an opportunity to talk with you as the State of Pennsylvania in a little bit.

But our understanding of the ombudsman process maybe needs some clarification from you. As I, as a representative of the State, have understood it, it wasn't to make a decision of technicality whether something was safe, unsafe; it was more to respond to whether people's concerns and complaints were being addressed and responded to; is that correct, I mean, that was a basic underlying thought that I had?

MR. MARTIN: Well, the latter point is certainly correct. As to the former point which deals with technical issues, ombudsman cases in the past, and this case is no exception, have dealt with technical points as well.

MR. WELCH: From the aspect that you would make the technical decision, though?

MR. MARTIN: No, let me make that clear; I am not a decision-making official of EPA, so no, I make no technical decision.

MR. WELCH: So in the final report that will

be coming out, since there's been a time period lapse,
and a lot of the issues that were raised in the draft
have since either had responses sent to you or have been
responded to in some sort of manner, will those
responses be included as closure for those; isn't that
the way the final is put together?

MR. MARTIN: On the point of closure, let me make it clear; I can make an observation on a report that the region, let's say, or the State or EPA headquarters has been fully responsive to an issue.

But the petitioning parties, the complaining citizens, determine in the final analysis whether closure has been reached.

MR. WELCH: I didn't mean closure as far as satisfaction. I mean, that it wasn't left open that this was claimed to have happened and that there was an investigation, and this was the report, not that it was right or wrong, but that will be in the final document?

MR. MARTIN: Yes, together with any appropriate comments provided by the Region, the State.

MR. WELCH: Thank you.

DR. CARNEIN: If there's a problem during the project, in other words when the project is in full operation, if, for example, some people in the community felt that they had more concerns that relate to the

operation that weren't being addressed, can they then 1 2 reopen the ombudsman process, come to you with more --MR. MARTIN: Let me respond to that question. 3 The aggrieved or petitioning parties determine when they 5 no longer wish the existence of the ombudsman. 6 their involvement does not preclude the involvement of other citizens who may also have concerns. 7 DR. CARNEIN: So essentially, the ombudsman process will really almost never end? 9 10 MR. MARTIN: Theoretically. 11 DR. CARNEIN: So in a way -- I mean, I don't 12 want to put words in your mouth, but in a way, you might 13 never have a final report on this site, I mean, a true final report that covers all the concerns that people 14 have? 15 I mean, what I'm trying to say is this 16 17 process could go on for the next hundred years, and we would still have people who might be dissatisfied 18. 19 MR. MARTIN: You and I won't be here. 20 DR. CARNEIN: Right. I guess what I'm trying 21 to say is that no matter what you do, there could still 22 23 be concerns that have to be addressed? That's correct. However, I MR. MARTIN: 24 think after review of the final report, and there will 25

be one at the end of this month, with the exception of the additional comments and two or three discrete issues that you had asked ask for, there will be a final report by the end of this month.

That does not preclude additional concerns being raised, let's say, during the course of operations at the site. However, the merit of doing the formal and final report is that you do capture most of the significant issues that need to be addressed.

DR. CARNEIN: Right. But there could be later interim reports and final reports if new issues were to --

MR. MARTIN: That's premature to say. I can't say that.

DR. CARNEIN: I'm just saying there could be.

Theoretically, it's possible that that could happen?

MR. MARTIN: Theoretically, that's possible.

That's not been the case yet, but I've only been doing

this function for five years.

MR. CRYSTALL: Bob, I'm going to step out on a limb and assume that A.I.R. is never going to be satisfied with responses. Is there a point in time where you go to the people who have petitioned you and say this is as far as I see it, this issue is closed, and is doesn't matter that you don't agree anymore; is

that an option that happens as well, or is it still open as long as the petitioners have a problem with it, open in terms of your involvement?

MR. MARTIN: Let me be clear, there have -not discussing this case -- but there have been other
cases in other communities and other regions where I
have felt that I have done what I can in terms of
ensuring responses to a complaint, and I'm very clear on
that point. However, I have never said I've done
everything I can or all that can be done.

MR. CRYSTALL: Okay.

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MS. LEE: I was just curious how the technical scientific information is evaluated?

MR. MARTIN: The question is how does

technical and scientific information go into this project?

MS. LEE: From either side, you know, whether provided by EPA or outside, you know, assertions provided by an outside -- how is that evaluated?

MR. MARTIN: First, I independently evaluate what is submitted to my office. In other words, I do read what people send me.

MS. LEE: Sometimes it is very technical.

MR. MARTIN: I understand that. Secondly, after reading what people send me, I do consult with a

number of EPA resources, the Office of Emergency
Remedial Response, I deal with; that's our national
superfund program.

I do communicate with our regional staff and offices. And there are times when I've worked directly with an organization known as the Environmental Response Team, which is based in Edison, New Jersey. And they have a national capability for technical expertise at superfund sites.

MS. LEE: You would have to seek them out; it's not automatically referred to, like, a panel of technical experts?

MR. MARTIN: That's correct. There's no automatic referral mechanism to panels.

DR. CARNEIN: Is the Environmental Response Team independent of EPA or is that part of EPA?

MR. MARTIN: They are part of EPA.

• MR. CRYSTALL: In fact, we've had ERT assist us in developing on the air sampling scenario and other -- they reviewed the risk assessment as well. They're a branch in EPA headquarters.

DR. CARNEIN: One of the concerns I have with your draft final report was that I didn't see references in there to peer review of some of the things that you said.

And a concern I had was that throughout this process, EPA pretty much, I thought, had to have peer review of a lot of the things that they do. I mean, their reports all have references in them, formal references to published literature to recognize scientists who've made studies along these lines.

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But in your report, I didn't see that kind of thing. And I was concerned that maybe the standards that you were using for many of the statements that you made were different from those of EPA in general. Can you respond to that?

MR. MARTIN: Yes, that's a very fair question. Let me be clear that not every report, for example, EPA issues, is subject to peer review. There are some cases, particularly at superfund sites in which we do subject our risk assessments to independent peer review by a panel of scientists.

But I think it's a fair statement that not every report is subject to peer review that EPA generates, but probably most. There's an assumed level of expertise behind the report which is issued by EPA.

In the case of my report, certainly this final report, it will be -- will have contributions from not only regional offices, but also headquarters as well.

DR. CARNEIN: I guess what I meant was when you look at an EPA report, usually if they say something factual, it will have a -- it's,like a scientific report, it has a reference.

And you can go to the reference section in the back of the report that says where that -- in other words what they're basing that on, and you can go look it up if necessary. And I didn't see that in your report. I didn't see a list of references.

MR. MARTIN: That's correct. And that list of references or what I term "findings of fact," does not appear until the final report.

DR. CARNEIN: Okay.

MR. MARTIN: I hope that's responsive.

DR. CARNEIN: I thought that might be true, but I -- and I think I asked you that question in numerous correspondence.

MR. VILELLO: Can I ask one more question before we wrap up? There's also been claims that your previous reports have been censored.) Have you heard those claims, and can you address that?

MR. MARTIN: Have I heard the arguments that my previous report has been censored?

MR. VILELLO: Yes.

MR. MARTIN: Yes, I have heard those. I can

confirm that the May 8 interim report was held. I think I dealt with that in a draft final report and explained what had happened.

EPA decided to hold that report because they felt there were factual errors and misstatements of fact in the report. Upon review, what I call remand, in other words the assistant administrator for EPA, Timothy Fields, remanded my interim report to me for necessary corrections.

I found at least two errors in the interim report, which I addressed in the draft final report, a statement by Mr. Kostmayer that was attributed to him and which should not have been. And I believe there was also another technical error on the test for dioxin at the site, and that was also addressed in the draft final report.

MR. VILELLO: So you're comfortable with what's taken place and with the final report?

MR. MARTIN: I'm comfortable with the process I need to use to bring this to closure.

MR. CRYSTALL: If I can just elaborate a little bit more. There was a Feed of Information Act request to release Mr. Martin's May 8 interim draft report.

And our office of regional counsel and

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45 management in our region in Washington did black out 1 2 certain lines of that report before they released it to CNN. And that's the copy that got out to the public 4 first. 5 But I do believe that the entire May 8 6 report, uncensored, was one of the attachments that was 7 put into the repository with the August -- the next draft. 8 9 And if it's something that you haven't seen, 10 we can get you a copy of that. Same with you, Rusty, if 11 you haven't seen that not blacked out. 12 MR. BOTTORF: We got it. MR. CRYSTALL: So that is available. 13 DR. CARNEIN: Mr. Martin has informed me that 14 15 he has to leave. Are there any other questions from 16 members of the committee or City Council? Thank you 17

very much for coming.

MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Dr. Carnein. (The hearing concluded at 1:07 p.m.)

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## CERTIFICATE

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I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me on the within proceedings and that his copy is a correct transcript of same.

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Laph Jamohlye FA.C Micole Hattern " Count enter are Re Camin ---EAC Mary ann Bower auralee E.A.C David Haulman Robert Bravary City of look Housen David Polisia USEPA Pin Horson will Efor. Grege Crystant IUS EPA DALL MOCKERER USACE Kick SANTUCCI OHM GARY JONES OHM. Mike Orden USACE Mike Well Tool Xony L.H. City Cawell Bik Vello hack Hoven City Course JERGE DRUMBOR Booz, ALLEX & HAMILTON Jean Botto! Cluster Count PEAVI LARey EAC